THE ENGLISH ARCADIA,

Alluding his beginning from Sir *Philip Sydneys* ending.

By Iaruis Markham.

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To the Reader.

THe innumerable tortures wherewith ſeuere cenſures will torment and whip me, their pewes, their pyſhes, their wrye lookes, Apiſh ieſtures, and vntunable pronuntiations, haue not ſo much retained me any time this halfe-ſcore yeares from the publication of this morall Hiſtorie, as the imputations of arrogancie immitation, affectation, and euen abſurd ignorance, which I euer feared. Enuie would vniuſtly lay vpon me: but hauing by cuſtome, and the weakneſſe of detraction looſed my ſelfe from ſuch ſhadowie fetters, and with a more airie ſpirit freed my ſoule from ſuch inſubſtantiall feares, I haue aduentured to caſt into the world this Orphan, which how-euer it was once begot by noble parents, and boſomed in the moſt celeſtiall eares that euer was worthie to retaine noble myſteries, is now like a vagabond inforſt to begge, and liue vpon miſerable charitie: yet for vertues ſake, whom I euer deſire to ſatisfie with my beſt powers, before I be araigned at the barre of bitterneſſe, I am willing to make this defence for the crimes which crueltie may ſuggeſt againſt me. Firſt for the Title, though it be only excellēt in the moſt excellēt creature that firſt taught vs the ſound of excellent writing, yet hath it likewiſe beene vſed by others in ſundrie pamphlets, without either pride or oſtentation, men taking libertie to lay their hyſtories in Countries by them moſt affected: next for mine alluſion and imitation, which beareth a colour of much greater vain-glorie: mine excuſe muſt onely bee the

worthinesse of former presidents, as Virgill *from* Homer, Arioſto *from* Baiardo, *famous* Spencer *from renowned* Chaucer, *and* I *with as good priuiledge from the onely to be admired Sir* Philip Sydney, *whose like, though neuer age hath or ſhall preſent to memorie, yet ſhall it be renowne to the meaneſt that indeuour to liue by the crummes of his Table: who were our age but bleſt with his liuing breath, he would himſelfe confeſſe the honie hee drew both from* Heliodorus, *and* Diana. *For other faults I muſt anſwere with Maiſter* France, *if there were a bond to compell men to read, there ſhould then be an authoritie likewiſe, to bind vs that write, to delight: But ſince both haue free will, my counſell is to reade no longer then till your appetite be either cloyed, or filled, and ſo by preſeruation of your ſtomackes, make them apt to taſte others better labours:*

to which, and to your owne content

I commit you.

I. M.

THE FIRST PART OF THE FIRST BOOKE

of the Morall English Arcadia,

alluding his beginning from Sir *Philip Sidneyes* ending.

AT such time as the flowers appearing vpon the earth, had summoned the ayrie quiristers to entertaine the first Embassadors of the Spring, and that Nature (deliuered trō the barraine wombe of Winter) had shewed her selfe lyuelie as the morning, faire as the nightes Gouerneſſe, pure as the Sunne, and as almighty as an armye of inuincible fortune: The vnhappy and forlorne Shepheard *Credulo* being come to the foot of the mountaine *Tagetus*, from whose large distributed skirts, ranne an euen and wel keuiled plaine, through which the siluer-flowing *Erimanthus* had made many curious and enterchangeable windinges, till she deliuered the abundance of her tribute into the bolome of the Oceās vnruly treasurie: and being arryued at the vtmost of the earths prospecte, he encountred with his companion (both in fortunes and desires) the forsaken *Carino*, whose eyes (long

before that time drown'd in their owne teares) were now ouer earlie awaked to bathe them-selues in the tearye sea of others more deere afflictions: And being mette in that alone lonelinesse (which extreamest of all miseries had chosen out as a plat-forme whereon to build that day a stage for an immortal Tragedie) they sate downe, & casting their eies vpon the waues (whose vast solitarines presented to their mindes the liuely *Idæas* of their vnaccompanied lamentations) began bitterly to complaine, that hauing ouer-laden hearts, broke & deuided with complaints (which by incessant bemoanings they sought howerly to disburden) foūd neither ease nor respet, but rather a more augmentation of their continuall child-bearing mischiefes: where-upon *Credulo* commenting in the sadnesse of his coūtenance, more large volumes of griefe then his weake tongue could deliuer, thus spake:

Ah *Carino* (said he) hither are we come to behold not the last act (though as bleedingly pitious as the lateſt can be) of Infortunes worst Tragedie, presented to the stony eyes of creatures insensible, because barbarous: and acted by the greatest Beautie that euer before this day arose in the skie of anie womans countenance: Alas that miserie should be so Imperious, as to dare to take possessiō in the Pallace of Vertue; or vertue so fearfull, as for any disaster in-fortune, to forgoe the habitation of Beautie: Will the Almightie Iustice in his Diuine prouidence create excellēt frames to ignoble vses? or Nature spend the golden treasure of her workmāship, in a receptacle for greatest imperfections? It is impossible, it is impossible!

The Arts-masters of this lowe rounds nations, striue in their works exquisite, to portrait their owne vertues; the best of which endeuours remaine after them, liuing

remem-

remembrances of dead worthines? And ſhall the maſter of them, and their knowledges, make his goodlieſt pyramed, a monument for vnbluſhing ſhameſulnes? it is too prepoſterous to imagine, and irreligious to beleeue; only to thee and mee (whoſe care-conſumed imaginations direct all their leuells againſt the marke of miſ-fortunes, as hauing our hopes giuen ouer into the handes of Diſdaine, our vowes inreſpected; our loues fruitles, our torments pittiles, & our deaths Tombleſſe) to vs I ſay theſe accidents of inhumane aduerſitie, are but awaking thunders, or Night-Rauen cryes to our laboring remẽbrances, drawing in them and before them, the models of thoſe miſhappes where-with our owne ſoules are attainted. How oft haue thou and I (my *Carino*) from the top of yon Mountaine ſent our eyes with the imbaſſage of our heartes, conueying in blood-drawing ſighes, (ſpeedy meſſengers of diſpaire) the occurrents of our dying hopes? How oft vpon this Plaine haue wee in darke *Eglogues* diſcourſed the pure intent of our honeſt ſeruices? How oft vpon theſe Sandes haue wee wrtten her name with our Sheep-hookes, which the iealous Sea in loue with, hath greedily ſnacht into his boſome? And how oft from yon aſpiring Rocke haue wee wiſht (ſo ſhe would beare witnes to our wiſh) to fal head-long into the Sea, as a ſeale to the great deed of our indurıng affection, and yet haue found neither hope in our deſires, comfort in our loues, nor end in our diſpaires? Haue we at any time deſiſted from the violẽce of our firſt paſsion? Hath there euer been ſeen coolneſſe in the burning Feuer of our deſires? Haue our mindes ſlept at all in the ſhade of a reputed obliuion? Or hath the Hiſtorie of her praiſes at any time found an end in our ſpeaches? the

gods forbidde. O *Cinthia, Cinthia*, our Fieldes Garland, our Winters spring, our Sommers shade, our Harvests fruit, and the liuing cause of all Creatures happy liuings: be thine eyes the witnesses of our vowes, and our owne deedes the testimonies of our faithes: be thine admiration as great as our loues, for our loues shalbe as boundles as the infinite world of thy perfections: Continue the miracle of time, as thou art the wonder amōgst women; that when Enuy after this day shall boast Queene *Hellen* of *Corinth* was vertue, yet thy vertue succeeding all ages, may still ingraft (in remembrance) an induring and vnblotted excellence.

Heere an extreame violence to speake much in the praises of deuine *Cinthia* (whom with equall ardor they both most sincerely adored) ouer came the power of much speaking, and with dumbe Oratorie conuerted his language to dumbnesse; whilst *Carino* thus replied.

What needes (my *Credulo* said he) this inditement against the hope of our contentment, whose desperate resolution long since hath pleaded guiltie before the greatest iudge of our Fortunes? To reckon our cares, were to number the starres: to measure our loues, were to make a circle greater then the greatest either is or can bee: and to vnlade our affectionate desires, were by spoonfulls to conuay the Sea into some contrary Channell: what they are we feele, and when they shall determine, the all-seeing all-thinges only hath knowledge: as easie can the Sunne be remooued from his diurnall passage, as our thoughts from her remembrance, or our hearts from the loue of her vertues: Haue not we succeeded both in our loues and admirations, the truely louing *Strephon* and *Claius* whose induring constancies, & forlorne indurances, hea-

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ued their *Vrania* beyond the degree of superlatiue? And is there likelyhood we will either seeke the abridgement of our woes (which is the badge of our sufferance) or the end of our loue (which is the heauen of our cogitations) no, no my *Credulo*, it was Vertue that brought foorth wonder, wonder knowledge, knowledge loue, and loue the eternitie of our neuer to be staine affection: Be then the world by vs fu'd full of the praises of deuine *Cinthia*, and euery Mothers child taught to adore the Starre can lead to so heauenly perfections. But whether are we carried with the force of her remembrance, and the violence of our owne duties? arose wee thus early for this? came we to complaine to the Ocean for this? wette we our vn-dride cheekes with new teares for this? or are our moanes senceleſſe to all be moanings but this only? Indeed as euery place is for ornamēt beholding to this subiect; so is this subiect indebted to euery place for a grateſull relenting, and inticing acceptance. But we came as I remember, to remember that being the Vaſſals, & bōdſlaues to Beauty, we owe some rent of griefe to the ouerthrow of a rare Beauty. Ah *Hellen*, faire *Hellen*, vnhappily happy in thy fairenes, who hauing al the possible meanes of allurements in thy perfections, findeſt nothing but impoſsibilities in attaining the meaneſt of thy wiſhes! thou art vnhappy, thou art vnhappy.

And as he would haue further purſued the agony of his paſſion, which euen then *Credulo* was ready to seconde with an hoſte of moſt bleeding argumēts; they were both interrupted with an extraordinary noiſe (full of terror & amazement) which to the firſt apprehenſion, they imagined to be a peale of Thunder, running poſt before the violence of an inſuing ſtorme: But more conſiderat-

ly beholding the marble cleernes of the well diſpoſed skye; and attentiuely hearing the continuance of the former rumor; they found the error of that conceit; whereupon comparing with the ſuruay of their eyes, (caſt vpon euery adioyned obiect) the hollownes of the ſound, and hard diſtinguiſhment of the clamors, both which gaue teſtimonie of a farre cõming exclamation: they caſt their ſightes to the Sea-ward, euen ſo farre as the deuiſion of the ayre would giue limitte to their ſeeing; and at the furtheſt end of that proſpect, they might perceiue like a ſmall duskie cloud riſing from the water, which by little and little creeping more neere the leuel of their iudgements, they ſaw increaſe both in quantitie & affright to their eyes (vnaccuſtomed to ſuch ſpectacles) for as if *Ioue* and *Neptune* had bene in combat for their birth-rightes, either ſtriuing with the predominant qualities of his kingdome to annoy each others habitation; ſo might one ſee through the clouds-thicknes, flames of fire dauncing vpon the waters, and immediatly mountaines of water riſe vp to ſporte with thoſe fires: there was to be ſeene by the eye of imagination, a combate without weapons, yet many times weapons and no combate: a feare with-out danger, yet more danger then feare could comprehend: at laſt what with the helpe of the windes, which comming from the Sea-ward, blew directly (with a recoyling force) againſt the ſhoare, they might plainly diſcerne a Galley & a Galliooon, like an *Eliphant* and a *Serpent* grapled together in an auſtere and reuengefull contention; the fury of the fight augmenting with the continuance of the fight, as it ſtrength were to be-gotten by ſtroakes, or freſhnes by wearineſſe; ſo power-full were the handes of thoſe actors, and ſo pure the ſpirites which

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then commaunded the vſe of ſuch handes: But amongſt the reſt, and aboue all that then were without reſt, they might perceiue two, in whom as it ſeemed a vindicatiue reſolution, had made them the wrathfull miniſters of an inexpiable malice; ſo the manner of exerciſing, atteſted an incomparable vertue both in the dexteritie of their valours, and in the vnamazed purſuite of their reuenges ſatisfaction: for as it ſeemed, they two contended againſt all, or all ſought the ouer-throwe of thoſe two: many handes being erected againſt one head; and yet many heads cut off by one hand. This fight continued in the viewe of the Sheapheards by the ſpace of two howres, with no leſſe terrour to them (who arm'd with ſo ſpacious a diſtance as might giue aſſurance from any aſſailement, had notwithſtanding through their eyes receiued the wound of feare vpon their hearts) then repentant ſorrow in thoſe that vnder-went the reuenge of ſo haughty courages: But by and by they ſawe the Ships which till then had as it were kiſt one an other, & hung togither by anvnfriendly & boyſtrous imbracement, diſſeuer themſelues, & the Gally, what with the force of her Oares, and a little helpe of a quarter winde which breath'd vpon her Sayles, made her way directly foorth into the Sea, with ſuch eagerneſſe of ſpeede, as many times we ſee a Pirate when he hath in chaſe a rich and well laden home-returning Marchant; but contrary to that; the Gallyoon with al the canuaſſe ſhe could put forth, boare before the wind as euen vpon the ſhoare as might be imagined, yet might they ſtill beholde (as long as the vertue of their ſightes could hold the knowledge of any obiect) one of the forenoted Champions in the Gally, not onely continue, but in more mortall and deſperate manner; continue the vn-

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ſpeakable bloudines of the firſt combat, till the length or diſtance had depriued their eyes of that ſpectacle: The other in the Gallioon with no leſſe but rather a more mauſpitious had of death ouer his incoũterers, by how much more neer he grew vnto the iudgemẽts of the beholders, augmented both his owne rage, & their opinions touching the excellency of his rage; diſtributing ſuch vnreſiſtable blowes, that his ſword was ſeen ſildom or neuer fall with his hand, but a body deuided from a ſoule fell dead at his foote; ſo that as it was moſt likely to be imagined the poore in-habitants of that veſſell, growne to the deſperate willfullneſſe of abſolute deſperatenes (which is by death to ſhunne death) willfully ran the ſhip againſt the Rocks, whoſe armed breſt of too hie proofe for ſo ſlender timber, ſplit her in one inſtant into many thouſand diſioyned peeces; the ſuruiuing remnant more willingly offring vp their liues into the hands of the mercileſſe Sea, whoſe mercy they had not taſted; then to the ſubiection of his ſword, whoſe vigor in puniſhing their breathles companions bodies, in their floating witneſſed. But neither did the daring of their diſpaires (which was the vnexpected entrance to this exill, neither the danger it ſelfe (wherein the preciouſnes of his deare life was imballanced) neither the inacquaintance of the ſoyle whereon he was ſhip-wrackt, neither his many wounds, the lotte of Fortune, Hope, Honour, Wealth, or other expectation breed in him either amazement, feare, or deſiſtance from the continuance of that reuenge, which from the begining he with ſo great vertue purſued; for being now left to ſtruggle with the vnruly waues, whoſe imperious billowes (many times counter-checking his deſires) gaue him a feeling remembrance of his mortall conſtitution,

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he gathered new life, by the hazard wherwith the old life ſtoode indangered: and ſwimming with ſuch beautifull cõlineſſe as *Triton* is feined to do, whẽ he vſhers *Neptune* to *Venus* banquets, with his ſworde in his hand, which often enſigne-like he flouriſhed about his head, as who ſhould ſay, Danger is but the hand-maid to Vertue, or as if he would haue chalenged moe perils then thoſe, imputing the eſcape of this no worthie reputation; without turning his eie backe vpon his owne ſafetie, he followed on ſtill the ruine of thoſe to whome was left no comfort but in ruinous periſhing, and made ſuch ſlaughter, that not a breathing ſoule was left to complaine, that ſo manie by one were become breathleſſe; But hee had no ſooner finiſhed the effect of what hee hoped for: And Furie (wanting a ſubiect whereon to worke more fury) had giuen place to the feeling of other paſsions, when inſtantly his ouer-laboured bodie grew weake and ableleſſe to deliuer him a liuing ſoule, made free from thoſe perils; yet with an vnyeelding vertue that was euer (or euer ſeemed to be) ſtrongeſt in his weakeſt fortune, he many times mounted vp himſelfe, and ſprang vpon the waues, ioyning both Arte & courage togither as means for his deliuerance. But euen at the laſt pinch, when ſtrength had as it were finiſhed the need of ſtrength, vnkindly ſtrength forſooke him, and he ſunke downe, vnable any longer to preſerue that life, which ſtill then had preſerued the life and eſtate of many kingdomes: but the guilty waters (aſhamed to bee guiltie of ſo execrable a murther) opened their boſoms, & brought him vp again into the aire, where by the force of the ſiege of the Sea he was borne vpon the ſands, and lay to the iudgement of the Shepheards (who till then vpon their knees, were

adoring him as a cœleſtial deitie) breathleſſe and without motion, in-ſo-much that with all their powers they ranne and recouered him ere the ſiege could come againe, which as appeared, greedie of another imbracement, made more then vſual haſte to ouer-take him: and when daungerleſſe they had laid him vpon a neighbour banke vnto the ſhore, they behelde a perſon of ſo rare and vnmatchable proportion (in whom all the beauties of the worlde were moſt liberally diſ-ieſted) that prodigall Nature in the worke ſeemd vtterly to haue beggerd herſelfe, and becom'd penurious to all ſucceeding ages: It was not long before they had brought him to life and the knowledge of the daunger whereunto his life was ingaged; when ſodainly he ſtart vpon his feete, and gazing like a wounded Deere vpon his concealed perſecutor, he cried; O *Thamaſtus, Thamaſtus*, liueſt thou with men or Angels? vnhappie that I am, ſhal I liue to inquire if thou liue? I will not, I will not, my breath is not mine owne if thou be breathleſſe, nor ſhall my dayes bee augmented an houre after thy deſtruction, forſaken *Pyrophylus*, deiected *Pyrophylus:* with that he wilfully would haue throwne him-ſelfe into the Sea againe, as in loue with the perill which he hated, or the death which with ſuch difficultie hee eſcaped. But the amorous Shepheards hearing him name thoſe two names, which kept the world both in awe and admiration, ranne haſtily vnto him, and folding him in their armes, with the vttermoſt of their force, (which the loue of thoſe names had ſtretched to the higheſt ſcale of their puiſſance) ſtayed him from the vnnaturall ſelfe-killing combatte; and with the beſt oratorie that the ſimplicitie of their bringing vp could then inſtruct their tongues, they perſwa-

perſwaded him from impouerishing the world of thoſe excellent hopes which his verie preſence promiſed in moſt admirable aboundance: and conuring him by thoſe two rarely beloued and praiſe-worthie names, (which with ſuch feeling ſorrow hee hat vttered, and all the Nations of the worlde with vnſpeakeable reuerence entertained) not to let that day bee regiſtred in misfortunes calender, as the day of greateſt misfortune, by the loſſe of ſo diuine an expectation; aſſuring him by thoſe eſpeciall tokens which they had noted during the conflict, that if his friend whom he bewailed, were that vncõquered ſpirit which in the gally had done ſuch matchleſſe feats of chiualrie; that then there was no feare of his periſhing, inaſmuch as they had ſeene him make himſelf Lord of the Gally, ere the wind or Oares had caried her beyond the cõpaſſe of their ſights. Further they humbly vpon their knees beſought him, that if he were eyther of thoſe two Princes, whoſe ſweete names were reſweetned by his vtterance, that it would pleaſe him not to conceale it from their knowledges, who all be they were but Shepheards, yet had that vertuous feeling of nobleneſſe, which taught them a ſeruiceable duty to the incõparable greatnes of ſuch dignified ſtates, The Prince *Pyrophylus* (for ſuch was his name) a little pacified, and hoping by this hope in their ſpeeches to kill his hopeleſſe Diſpaire, was content to be ouer-ruled; though manie times the feruencie of his loue had almoſt ouercom'd that not certainly grounded reſolution: in the ende, calling to minde that their fight was both begun and occaſioned vpon the *Helleſpont*, and that this place was altogither beyonde the bounde of his knowledge, fearing the *Seſtian* lawe, which for the loſſe of the two faithfull

louers *Hero* and *Leander*, adiudged present death to the aproach of any neighbour-bordering straunger; and not forgetting the contract betwixt him and *Thamastus*, that they should neuer be knowne where euer they were disioyned; answered the Shepheards, that how euer they might mistake his vtterance, or his vtterance beguile the intent of his owne meaning, it was so that hee was called *Adunatus*, Prince of *Iberia*, who from the beginning of his first knowledge, had held in singular admiration the memorie of *Thamastus* Prince of *Rhodes*, and *Pyrophilus* Prince of *Macedon*; so that if hee had spoke of them, it was but like a dreaming man, whose braine from the superfluitie of his thoughts apprehends diuers remote and farre distant imaginations; but for his own part, at that instant hee said, he was both careless and worthlesse, and worthie to bee so vnworthily careless, sith his fortune had lost him that rich blessing, which in any but the selfe same thing, could by no Fortune be againe restored; and therewithall desired to knowe of them, vpon what coast he was ship-wracked, to the intent he might make the speediest search was possible to recouer the great losse hee had sustained: to which the Shepheards replied, that the Country in which he now was, was called *Laconia*, a Prouince in *Peloponessus*, adioyning to the Frontiers of *Arcadia*; which hauing beene long time gouerned (all be with many insurrections, and rebellious commotions) by the renowned *Basilius*, was after his decease, by the power of his testament (and as a man fit to curbe so vnruly a generation) giuen to the noble and famous *Amphyalus*, his sisters sonne: a man so excellently seasoned with the salt of all vertuous vnderstanding, that excepting the hope of

Thamastus

Thamaſius and *Pyrophylus* he ſtood in the eie of the world vnmatch-able and beyond compariſon; *Pirophylus* hearing them name *Amphyalus* (whom he had euer reſpectfully reuerenced for the rariety of his perfections) demaunded where he kept his Court, and how long hee had hung his eaſefull armour by the walles to meditate more ſafely vpon the actions of other Nations? They anſwered, that his Court was abandoned, deſolate, and forſaken of all, in whō griefe by the greatnes of his birthright challeng'de not a fee-ſimple inheritance, and for the place of his reſidence, it had bene vnknowne to his ſubiects by the ſpace of theſe three yeares, at what time he departed thence with as great a burthen of inſupportable diſcontentment, as *Atlas* or *Olimpus* with their ioyntleſſe ſhoulders could ſtand vnder; the reaſon wherof being (though many times ſuſpitiouſly coniectured) neuer ſufficiendy vnderſtood or daringly entred into by any deuining or all-knowing iudgement, was (they ſaid) now at laſt (but heauen knowes how long they wil laſt, which calles ſuch excellencie to the laſt account of life-laſting) both knowne, cenſured, and to many iniudiciall eares malitiouſly deliuered, to the diſgrace of the worlds beſt beautie, & the deſtruction of a moſt famous queene, euer till then wondred for a wonderfull vnblemiſht reputation, euen *Hellen* Queene of *Corinth*, that harmles faire, and faire harmles hurt creature, a Lady of a mightie humblenes and an infinite mightines; vertuouſly alluring, becauſe ſhe was vertuous, and that vertue married to an euer-adored beautie; Of a maieſtie fit for ſuch greatnes, and a gracefulnes anſwerable to a pure wiſedome: in truth ſuch ſhe was, as ſuch they ſhould bee that haue ſo great perfections as ſuch a celeſtiall *Hellen*:

This

This name of *Hellen*, thunder-strooke *Pirophylus*, and as if his passion had had a metamorphosing deity, stone-like he stood without sence or motion, till reason the ensigne of the soules holynes called backe his spirites to their vsuall attendance, and hee earnestly besought the Shepheards aswel for the bettering of his knowledge (to whose taste he euer coueted to present the nourishing milke of discourse) as for a burning ardor he had to make his fortune the releif-master to a forlorne and & destressed Ladies afflictiõs, to vnfold vnto him euen from accident to aceidẽt al that had befalne to that most beautifull Queen of *Corinth*, of whõ thogh in the coolnes of his intreaties he gaue no shew either of familiarity or acquaintãce (as indeed there was not, hauing neuer in their liues seen one the other) yet almost frõ there childhoods they had married one to another a vertuous opinion of honorable estimation; being by alyance of blood nearely conioyed togither, but especially and aboue all for the neare nearnesse both of affinitie and loue, twixt her and *Meliadora*, the only Goddesse, to whose feet he laid al the sacrifices of his swords honor or dutie. *Carino* who euer more and more gathered out of the rarenesse of his cariage, and sweet disposure of his gestures, a height or exhaltation of honour beyond the comprehensiue conceit of his vnderstanding, both to be found dutifull to his cammandements, and to beget a further continuance of so wished a presence (after the Prince by the Sunnes aid which then shined hotly against the rockes, had both dried his apparel, and refresh'd his halfe drowned spirits) thus set the key of his hermonious tongue in tune, to tell the vtmost of his knowledges.

Although (most excellẽt Prince said he) frõ the clowdy dark-

darkneſſe of our little knowing remembrances, can ariſe no expectfull matter of memorable cõſequence, the qualitie of our obſcured eſtates depriuing vs the mean whereby Princes affairs ſhould be vnfolded vnto ſo vnworthy eares, as well becauſe the weakneſſe of our iudgements cannot looke into the cauſes of their fortunes, as the inſufficency of our counſels that can preuent no effect of fortune (how aduerſe ſoeuer) proceeding frõ thoſe cauſes; yet inaſmuch as the worlds rumor is many times retained for an Oracle, and the liberal tongue of Fame wil in the moſt reſpectleſſe eares couer the worlds publique counſels; I wil declare vnto your excellent wiſdom what the inuenomed inſtrument of Enuyes tongue to all this whole nation moſt bytterly hath declared.

At ſuch time as the noble *Amphyalus* (who being loues true priſoner) kept impriſoned the trueſt loue, and the trueſt beauty that euer had power to commaund loue, I meane the incomparable Princeſſes *Pamela*, & *Philoclea*, with the *Macedonian Pyrocles*, at that time the *Amazonian Zelmane* had got the abſolute vnderſtanding of his mothers flint-hearted crueltie againſt thoſe immortall Paragons of the worlde, to whom he had euen ſlaued the ſubiection of his diuine ſoule, & ſawe by the Caracters of their misfortunes, the deſperate euil wherunto the lothſomnes of his life (growne vgly with the deformed diſdain which had mangled his thoughts in peeces) would headlong conuey the wretcednes of his hopes, & when he had with a ſelfe-killing hand made that ſworde wherewith he had euer throwne ſo many Kings conquerours, and invincible Gyants, giue a deadly aſſault vnto the boſome of his hearts Cabanet, ſeeking by vntimely death to ruinate that glorious worke of Nature, wherein

wherein the excellencie of the first workmaster had showed the best power of his artes working; This beautifull Queene of *Corinth* (of whose dolours my braine is now euen great in labour withall) hearing not of that but of another most daungerous wound he had receiued in a former combate betwixt him and the excellent *Musidorus*; after a tedious and wearie iourney (wherein only loue tooke away the bitter feeling of wearines) she ariued in those parts of *Arcadia*, with assured hope of his recouery by meanes of a most excellent Surgion whom then in her country she retained; But in such an inauspitious hower of vnluckines, that finding the feare of danger, taken from the daunger she feared; there was now an inrecouerable perrill wedded to a desperat fearefulnes; for the foe was his owne hande, and that hand guided by so hopeles a loue, that hating all thinges which the loue he loued would not pittie, he himselfe had vsed against himselfe that violence, which else no violence could haue vsed: In briefe when she came to his presence, she found him bathing in his owne selfe-spilling bloode; and if not absolutly dead, yet so neare the confines of deathes Kingdome, that not the seuerest iudgement could say or hope he liued. To discribe the liuely sorrow which attending from her dying hearte appeared in the watry Sun-shine of her eyes; how oft she swounded, reuiued, and againe and againe re-dyed; what bloode-wasting sighes she vttered, what groanes shee disburdened, how lamentably she bewailed, how desperatly she raged, the war betwixt her faire handes and her bosome, betwixt her torne haires and the windes motion, her teares burning in the beautie of her cheekes, and her beautie drowned in the Channell of her teary Ocean-

her

her cõfuſiõ, in ſorow making an vniformity in heauines, yet that heauy vniforme, a barbarous Chaos of miſerie: to deſcribe this, I ſay, were labor infinite and inneceſſarie, the rather ſith it ſtands in a memoriall by the moſt memorable pen that euer recorded matter worthie of memorie: But at laſt when ſorrow had as it were (in the iudgement of all her beholders) called to ſo ſtraite an account all the ſorrowes of her remembrance, that there was no other matter left ſaue onely ſorrow in her imaginations, and that ſo full of imperious commaund, as it was high treaſon againſt her ſoule, to thinke it was not eternall: euen then the eye of wiſdome (cleared by thoſe afflicting clouds which muffled her affections) began to diſcouer the error in her forgetful paſsions; her weeping making her neglect the meanes ſhould bring her to not weeping; and her complaints drawing on a certaine end to worke in her endleſſe complainings; whereupon turning from the dead reputed coarſe, that her returning might adde more violent extremitie to her compaſsionate languiſhment; and a little depriuing her eies the bleſſedneſſe of their ſights, that with the ſame ſight they might bee more diuinely endeared; ſhee humbly threw herſelfe at the feete of thoſe Princes, whoſe heauie eyes not without abundant teares were ſpectators of that immortally bemoaned tragedy, but eſpecially ſhe conuerted all her ſpeeches to the world, contemning *Amaxius*, a man whoſe ſelfe-louing opinion had drawne into him a beleefe of impoſsible atchieuements, and to him ſhee declared the olde age of her tedious diſpiſed loue; the vnremoueable conſtancie of her confident affection; and the world-wondring end her ſorrow would conſummate as ſoone as her hopes were deprined the

bliſſe of their expectation, euer and anon mingling amongſt her compaſsionate bemoanings, ſuch an intyre adoration to the name of *Anaxius*, preferring it before Angells, and recording it firſt of all in the mightie inrolment of God-heades: that he whole blindneſſe could apprehend nothing but his owne greatneſſe, grew now great with childe of imaginarie diuinitie: and though for the death of *Amphyalus* he had vowed a deteſtation of all women, yet in loue with his owne glorie, hee was content (with a deformed ſmile) to commend her, that thereby he might backe againe call to minde his owne commendations; and ſwoare by himſelfe (for greater than himſelfe, his great heart would neuer acknowledge) that the royall humour of her greatneſſe, gaue her an excellent inſpection, and a determinate meane of wel iudging the ſingularitie of others perfections: but yet he who had neuer accuſtomed himſelfe to condiſcende to any deſire of vertue, becauſe his Religion was grounded vppon this hereſie, that honour was got by contradiction, and greatneſſe moſt feared by a perticulat deniall of a generall intreatie, notwithſtanding all the dartie Launces of her well tempred Oratorie, would haue vtterly withſtood her ſute (which was onely to haue the cõueyance of the body of *Amphyalus* into her own countrey) had not his two brothers, called *Zoylus* and *Lycurgus*, (to whom ambitious Nature had not beene full out ſo prodigal, though by a great deal too much, much too liberall in the ſame humor of oſtentation) taken a more liuely taſte of bitterneſſe from her teares, and ioyned in the approbation of her reaſonable demaund, drawing the ſtrength of their arguments from this ground, that ſith hee was a deſperate forſaken patient, whom no Phiſition

ſition or Surgion in thoſe parts, durſt in the leaſt hope giue a light of ſuruiuing, if any other part there were an inſearchable skill vnreuealed, it was neceſſarie to approue it, becauſe nothing could draw the daunger to a greater height then it was alreadie rayſed: beſides they boaſted what honour it would be to them, to conduct the dead bodie to the bordering skirts of *Baſilius* armie (which of neceſsitie they muſt doe) as it were in deſpight without eyther controlment or damage, to the intents they purpoſed: This laſt ſpeech (though the other auailed) found a more inſinuating acceptance in the Sunne-ſcalding ayme of *Anaxius*, ſo that he agreed to all her deſires, giuing her leaue to embalme the body with ſuch preſeruatiues, as for that purpoſe ſhe had brought with her: and tolde her, that as well for the vertues hee found in her (of which himſelfe could better iudge then any other creature) as for a carefull hope he had of his frends recouerie, ſhe ſhould haue that day not onely her wiſh, but alſo a God (meaning himſelfe) to be her ſanctuarie defendant; and one who would in ſuch ſafetie conduct her through the tents of his enemies; that to her well ſeeing iudgement ſhould appeare the terror of his greatnes. The comfortleſſe Lady to whom the want of comfort ſerued as a comfortable companion, taught by her griefe a politike cariage in griefe, ſoothed vp his vanities by amplifying vpon his vaine grounds, and with heartie humbleneſſe offered to kiſſe his hand as a teſtimonie of the aſsurance ſhe repoſed in his magnanimitie.

All things being prepared fit for ſo great a ſolemnitie, *Anaxius* and his traine attending on the hearſe; and the faire Queene *Hellen*, iſsued in a moſt ſolemne & tragicke manner from the Caſtle of *Amphialus*, and ſo

conducted her to the banks of the swift-falling riuer *Ladon*, without either impeachment or disturbance: where after many confused shewers of vncontrollable teares, seeming as if they would ioyne with the riuer to ouerflow and drowne the neighbour plaines. *Anaxius* and his brothers *Zoylus* and *Lycurgus*, tooke their leaues of the Queene, and the dead reputed *Amphyalus*, and so returned backe to the place from whence they were departed.

The Queene left alone to accompany her dead Lord, (sauing that she had onely twentie horsemen, and sixe Ladies which had beene her gardiants in that wofull voyage) commanded the coffin to bee set downe vpon a faire banke of flowers by the riuers side, and then taking her Lute, to the delicacie of whose sound she maried a more dilicate voyce, sung this funerall Sonnet.

Strong heart, my strong cares vneonsumed throne,
How bigge thou swellst with euer feeding griefe,
I hop'd that worne to nothing with my mone,
Nothing to nothing would haue brought reliefe.
And you mine eyes that enuie these faire streames,
Because they flow not ouer like your teares,
Learne by this riuer to abate extreames,
Sith coolest woes breede longest liu'd dispaires.
But O mine Eyes you haue immortall springs,
Fed by a heart which feedes vpon distresse,
And thou my heart art wed to sorrowing,
Sorrow, that sorrows-selfe cannot expresse.
Then heart grieue still, and Eies augment your fountaines,
Till one make Seas, the other cloud-hie Mountaines.

Here

Here casting the Lute from her hands, that she might cast her hands with more feeling ardencie about the beloued bodie, which with such vnspeakeable adoration she had inshrined in the faire Temple of her spotlesse heart, After my vnsympathised imbracements and cold kisses taken from his vnfeeling lips, shee thus began to second her well tuned moanes with vntuned lamentations.

Alas *Amphyalus* (sayd she) alas, thou that in the infiniteneſſe of thine vnbounded Disdaine, hast had such an immortall soueraignetie as to bee the all onely director both of my thoughts and actions: how much mightier had beene the amplified honor of thy royall spirit, if the great Godhead of thy diuinitie, had proceeded from a gracefull pitty, to the gnawing torrent of my miserable distresse? But I was vnworthy, and woe is me that thy worthineſſe did not esteeme me a worthy subiect to be ennobled by thy loues worthineſſe; yet was I not fatall to the long liued kingdome of thy vertues; thou shouldst not haue brought a consuming fire from *Corinth*, nor should my wombe haue deliuered a fire-brand to waste *Arcadia*, O yes I was prodigious to thy birth-right: and as a blasing starre at thine vnlooked for funerall; For me (though not from me) came that first knowledge of thy first euill, when thy deare *Phyloxenus* ende became the beginning of thy hate to my desires, & *Tymotheus* death a Scale to that reuerſ-leſſe deed of thy disdain, which no time or opinion shall euer cancell; O vnspeakable miserie! O maruellous doome of my fore-doomed persecution! O most wonderfull impietie of a hapleſſe beautie! O singular affliction to an euer afflicting memorie! and O iust iudgement of my starre-croſt destinie! O sor-

row, iuſt ſorrow, be thou henceforth the iuſtneſſe of my mediation! O fearefull ſorrow in the extremitie of my fearfulnes increaſe my ſorrowes augmentation, and let me ſorrow, that euer ſorrowing, my ſorrows are not amplifyed to a ſufficient greatneſſe: But why talke I of ſorrow that am not worthy of ſo gentle a ſleepe-killing cõpanion? O reſt thee thou faire foe to my reſt; thou weeping eye of a ſoft heart; thou reuenge of weakneſſe; vnkindneſſe ſatisfaction, and the key which vnlockes the cloſet of a concealed affection! O image of ſleepe, ſleepe with my forgetfulneſſe, and forgotten contentments; And come Death, vgly Death, vntimely Death, the rack to a burdned conſcience, the ſoules bitterneſſe; the bodies graue, and the mindes immortall affliction; come thou and accompanie my calamities, leade mee to my Lorde, that he may beholde in thee his Lordſhip ouer mee: there is no reaſon I liue, being reaſonleſſe left of the loue I adored. And here as if ſhee woulde haue drowned herſelfe in newe teares, or prooued that the greatneſſe of griefe is euer begotte by the greateſt expence of griefe; ſhee wept in ſuch violent abundance, that the extremitie of that ouerflowe, brought her to a motionleſſe dumbneſſe, in-ſo-much that one of her Ladies, whoſe eye had taken a full draught from that cup of patheticall griefe, taking the ſalne Lute into her hande, awakened her Queene with theſe mournfull Stanzies.

Night like a mourner creepes vpon moanes,
Yet troubles me becauſe it lets me ſee,
The blacke fac'd image of my hideous groanes
Which ſtill vnſtill increaſe to martyr me.

O eyeleſſe night the portrature of death,
Noiſe hating miſtreſſe of the hearts calme griefe,
That charm'ſt our cares, and quiet'ſt our breath,
O thou that art calamities reliefe
In thy downe-footed ſtealing, ſteale away
Woes memorie, approching with the day.

O not thou night the Sunne ſet follower,
The generall cloſer of all mortall eyes:
O thou art not my ſad hearts ſuccorer,
Euen thee I waſte and tyre with agonies.
But thou eternall night Deaths elder borne.
Thou night of nights more powerfull then the Sunne,
Throw mountaines on me that am moſt forlorne:
Moſt abiect hapleſſe, wofull, and vndone;
O let my woes be into darkneſſe hurld,
Or plaſt a burning Comet ore the world.

This ſong did ſo aggrauate the extremitie of her paſſion, which now like an ouer-wittie Sophiſter (whoſe fluent braine preſents him more arguments then his tongue can diſcharge, euer moſt in loue with that which lies laſt vnreuealed) was conceyted that ſhee could vtter more wounding lamentations then ſhe yet had vttered, began to create new methods of complaining, till ſhee was interrupted by a diſcrete Gentleman her attendant, who perſwaded her from that wearineſſe of mourning, chiefly where no eaſe-procuring ſorrowe made the labourſome day eternall with vaine labour, and brought no night of reſt, to her ſo long vnreſted diliberations, arguing that theſe delayes in her moanes, would if ſhee woulde continue them, bring her anguiſh

to a more desperate state of miserie, the necessitie of this extremitie, craving no spurres but winges to convey her hope to the ende of that rare arte, wherein all her hope was builded. This speech laid such holde vpon her reason, that adorning her faire cheekes with the rosie blush of shamefastnesse, she rose vp, and commaunded the coffin to be put into the litter in which her selfe rode, and so followed on her iourney; yet at euerie such conuenient houre, wherein either the reliefe of Nature, or the extremitie of the hot burning Sun commanded a desistance from trauailing; she omitted not still to doe the like, lest any ouer-curious eye should imagine, that the trauell of her mind receyued ease, when her body wanted motion; obseruing the humour of an absolute couetous person, whose desires grow greater when he enioies the greatest part of that he desired. After many daies & nights (all-be dayes and nights were not by her distinguished with any difference) thus pitiously consumed, she arriued near vnto her owne most goodly and beautifull Citie, the Citie of *Corinth*, whither newes of her approaching was some fewe dayes before comed, (as heauinesse hath euer moe Fames then one running before it) insomuch that *Phalantus* a gallant Knight, and base brother to the Queene, at that time, and in her absence commanding (as her Vicegerent) with the absolute authoritie of her Scepter; desirous to giue her that intertainment which might be most suitable tó those lamẽtable delights whervnto was cõtracted al the thoghts of her vnderstanding; gathered togither the old remembrances of his own former disquieted happinesse, (when the Varnish of *Artesias* beautie blearing his eyes, made him imagin his hart was wounded with an army of Launces) & caused these

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nourishing showes of displeasure pleasingly to bee presented vnto her; first in her passage ouer the riuer *Tegea* (which runs some two leagues from the Citie) as soone as she was entred into her Barge, and lanched from the shore; with the artificiall noyse of sundrie vessels (prepared for the purpose) there arose to her imagination, a strong and fierce storme, with such dreadfull clappes of thunder and lightning, that to an vnwel-apprehending sense, Art might seeme not to borrow, but to lend much to the diuinitie of Natures perfection. After these foregoers of amazement, followed a tempestuous shewer of raine, which as if *Iuno* had beene at a newe intreatie with *Aeolus*, and offered not *Diope* but *Hellen* her-selfe for his Paramour, was so violently carried with the seeming powers of many windes, that the Barge-men who had the conduct of the Queene, all-be they were agents in these deuised extremities, yet seeing the effect of the worke go so farre beyond the effects of their knowledges, grew forgetfully astonished, and beganne to lay downe their Oares, and crie to bee deliuered from that feare which them-selues had created to shew the power of fearfulnes. Neuer till nowe did the solitarie Queene cast vp her eies, or in the least chaunge of countenance giue notice she had noted their proceedings; but with the constantnesse of her sorrow taught them that the picture of true wo, was by no *Idea* to be taken; yet whether stirred by their (to no purpose) exclamations, or imagining their stay a signe of her arriuall on the other side, and that they cried out but onely to companion her bemoanings: she arising, looked forth, but sawe all the ayre so smoothered vp in an vnnaturall perfumed myst, (wherein all delicate odours had with such an attone-

ment symbolizd them-selues togither, to make a perfite vse of absolute sweetnesse) that it bred in her a delightful wonder, with a respectiue carelesnesse, so that she cast her sight about her with a more stedfast inquirie to behold the euent of the stratagem; when the vapour a litle clearing, yet not so much that any brightnesse of the day might from the inamaled fore-head of the heauens bee perceiued, shee sawe or seemed to see directly vpon the shoare before her, the modell of an ancient Castell, the curious frame of whose building by reason of the fogge could not be well discouered, onely as it was most likely either from some hie erected window, or from the top of some well raysed Tower shee might behold a burning Lampe, that with his oft in and out-appearing, sometimes violently flaming, and immediately dampt, and depriued for a long space of his shining, showed the implacable warre of two contrarie conioined Elements; and the madnesse of that storme, tyrannizing ouer so little a spot of inflamation: But as shee fixed her sight thereupon, suddenly a wrastling in the waters close by her Barges side, inuited her eyes to a nearer obiect, and sheee sawe swimming vpon the waues in most amiable gracefulnes, and with such an art-full dexteritie as gaue an ornament to the siluer liquid, a most beautifull and faire young man; close at whose heeles followed the Sea-god *Neptune*, with his Trident in one hand, and in the other, small remnants of innumerable treasures, which hee carryed as figures of that inestimable abundance, which is concealed in the bottomlesse wombe of the Oceans darknesse; and with them, as it were, wooed the louely youth, whose minde borne vpon the wings of contrarie affections, conueyed him with an irre-

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ſpectiue motion from the preſence of the God; often times in ſhrikes, crying, O *Hero*, *Hero*, I haue tardy armes and ſlowe forces, vnworthy attendants for ſo ſweete a beautie, at which the God with a mourning pitiouſnes diued downe into the deepe, and was no more deſcerned. At this the care-waſted Queen apprehended the deuice, and preſently called to memorie that firſt ſtorie of loue which euer in writing was bequeathed to memorie of the infortunate *Hero* and *Leander*: but with ſuch greedineſſe, that all-be ſhe knew it was a deuiſe begotten to delight her paſsion, yet forgot that either it was deuiſed, or that her paſsion ſhould delight in ſuch ſorrowfulneſſe; wherfore as if it had beene the ſubſtance of that ſhadow it preſented, ſhe gaue it ſuch a memorable entertainment, as in deſpite of reaſon ſhe brake forth into theſe weepings.

O excellent *Hero* (ſaid ſhe) that hadſt triumph in thy loue, vertue in thy faith, admire in thy cõſtancy, & in thy death a moſt bleſſed, bleſſed martyrdom; thou wert vnhappie in thy too much happines, & happie in the worſt ende of thy ſowre fortune; thou didſt infinitely loue, and wert much more infinitely affected, ſo that if thou didſt euer ſigh, it was becauſe thou couldeſt not loue beyond infinitenes: how cõtrarie am I to the ſtate of thy proceedings, whoſe loue is bondage, whoſe faith reſpectleſſe, conſtancieſſe auaile, & death (by a remoteneſſe) too obſtinately helpleſs: thy *Leander* loued that he might be diſdained; mine diſdained becauſe he deſired to bee hated: thine ſwam a *Helleſpont* to inioy thee; mine an Ocean to be remoued frõ me: thine made a perfit work, ere an imperfit ending; mine ouerthrew all labor, becauſe in the end ſhould be no perfection. O *Amphyalus*, *Amphyalus*,

if euer thoſe entombed eyes had power to heaue vp the coffins which incloud their brightnes, make cleare thoſe ſweet circles, and looke with pitie if not with loue, vpon pittious *Leander*, ſee how he plowes the waters to reape a forraine deſired harueſt, whileſt thou haſt a greater ryches falling vpon thy boſome! ſee how he mournes for the ſlowneſſe of his bliſſe, whileſt I crie out at the ſwiftneſſe of my miſerie! O Fortune how doeſt thou auerſe the countenance of thy fauour, and in the Atrocitie of my miſhaps, buildeſt the glorie of thy Kingdome: when wilt thou bring backe thine aſpectiue mildneſſe, and let mee ſee againe thoſe Halcion dayes of calmeneſſe, which in my firſt age I enioyed? O vnbegotten intreatie, thou art as farre from effect, as I from reaſon, and both ſhall neuer meete with our wiſhes. And hauing thus ſaid ſhe fell to a new maner of old lamenting; when the onely eye imagined ſtorme (imitating a tragicke diſpoſition to make the laſt act the extremeſt) broke into an inſtant violence, his companion darknes, which euer runnes before him, hauing put on the woꝛſt habite of his worſt countenance: ſo that as if the clouds had beene rent in peeces with thunder, the ayre burnt to cinders with lightning, and the earth thirſted to haue bin drowned in an other *Ducalliden*, all things were put into a confuſed amazement; during which outrage, the lampe was ſeene to be put out with the winds, and ſundry moſt lamentable ſhrikes to follow the departure; as if it had beene the *Idea* of ſome ſoules happines, when preſently after the heauens cleared, the waters calmed, the windes ceaſed, and a Serene mildenes was diſperced ouer all the continent, at what time the Queene with her carefull charge of cares arriued at the foote of the former deſer-

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ned Caſtle, whoſe ſtatelineſse in building, though it conſiſted of the weakeſt ſtate of continuance; yet was ſo ſhadowed with the beſt of Arts inuention, that the firſt apprehenſion of the eye would haue adiudged it at an inestimable valew, like the moſt curious portrature of *Venus*, laid vpon an otherwiſe diſpiſed board, or a remnant of vſeleſſe Canuas. As ſoone as ſhe had ſet her foote vpon the ſhore, which was no ſooner then the coffin could be diſcharged of the Barge, there might ſhe ſee vpon the ſands, *Leander* drowned, and *Hero* lamenting ouer him, in her Nunne-like and virgin-ſtained apparell; who with all the impoſsible paſsions of an impoſsible to be appeaſed furie, acted with ſuch liuely tremor, the worſt deſperateneſse of a decayed fortune: that *Hellen* ſtood as much amazed to behold her, as grieued to ſee ſo much woe in a counterfeyt diſcontentment; and in her amazement looked firſt vpon *Hero*, then vpon her ſelfe; after vpon *Leander*, laſtly vpon *Amphyalus*, and thus many times ſent her lookes to and fro poaſting without intermiſsion, euery looke bringing her backe matter of more mourning; in the ende bowing downe her heauenly countenance, ſhe ſaid, if there were an end in woe, it were nothing to be woe begone: but being eternall, it is a ſadde Dietie; and with that paſsed forward on vpon her iourney. But ſhe was not gone halfe a league further vpon the ſands, ere ſhe ſawe a Nymph running before her, whoſe haires being looſed, partly by the winds, but chiefly by the violēce of her tyrannous white hands, followed after her in ſuch a diſpearſed length, that if at any time ſhe ſtoode ſtill, they ſeemed to kiſse the baſe earth in the falling, or couer it in the golden riches of their beauties; as if ſhe would make that barraine mould

to

to be eſteemed before any other element; her necke was naked, only a coſtly Rebat of flowers, (halfe looſe) hung fallingly vppon her ſhoulders; her garments which were of a Sea-coloured ſilke, curiouſly embrodered with a Minataurian Laborinth, were in many places torne, but ſo as euerie eye might ſee the diſgrace was begot more through a wilfull madneſſe, then eyther a negligent careleſneſſe, or a wantfull needineſſe; thus as ſhee ranne, ſhee ſometimes threwe her armes from her, as if ſhe would beat away the winds that flew wantonly about her; ſometimes drew them backe, and lockt them in togither, as if ſhe woulde imbrace or hold the ayre from fleeting; and ſometimes linking her Iuorie fingers one within another, raiſe them aboue her heade to the Sky-ward, as if with that geſture ſhee would call pittie from the heauens. And with theſe paſsionate motions filled the eies of her beholders, till come within the compaſſe of their eares hearing, they might more plainly vnderſtand her dolours, which with a burden of tearie ſighes made euermore their concluſiõ with the name of *Theſeus*, accuſing him of flintie hardneſſe in not relenting; of vnkindneſſe in not louing; of tyrannie, in not pittying; of falſhoode in diſſembling; and of ingratenes in iuſt deſerts vnrewarding. By this the Queen perceyued it was forſaken *Aryadne*, left to the worlde by vniuſt *Theſeus*, in the memorie of whoſe miſhaps (as in an excellent myrror) ſhe ſaw the liuely image of her wofulneſſe; whereupon ſhe ſtaid with wonder, and wondred with pitie at that which in her ſelfe ſhe could neither pittie nor wonder at: and as ſhe ſtoode in this vnaccuſtomed pauſe with teare-filled eyes, ſhee ſawe olde *Sylenus* vppon his lazie Aſſe, eyther in a dead ſleepines,

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or a drunken deadneſſe, come ambling with ſuch an expectation of falling, that his vntoward motions, which in others bred a laughing ſcornfulneſſe; in her ſad Lady ſtirred vp a remorſiue fearfulneſſe; after him and about him went a troupe of Satyres pyping, and dauncing; with bautrickes of Iuie, and Garlandes of Poppie about them: then came in couplettes a multitude of *Bacchanals* crowned with ſwelling Grapes, and redde Roſes; ſome bearing in their handes carrowſing Cannes, ſome Myrtle boughes, ſome burning Tapers, and ſome downie Cowches of Moſsie ſoftneſſe; altogether like wilde Goates, running and dauncing with ſuch meaſureleſſe preportions, that it was not offenſiue to ſay it was barbarous; yet was it ſo orderly befitting the actions of ſuch perſons, that it ſhewed there was a preſcript forme in vnnaturall rudenes. After all theſe came the youthfull God *Bacchus*, drawne by foure ſnow-white Harts, and two ſauadge Boros, in a Vinetree chariot, couered & inuecked with cluſters of ripe grapes, and faire ſmelling flowers. They marched directly towards *Aryadne*, inſomuch that *Hellen* grew afraied, leſt their rudeneſſe ſhould adde miſlike to the loſt-Ladies ſadneſſe, till ſhe ſawe *Bacchus* with a diuine carefulneſſe take her vp into his chariot, and bear her from her view, as ſhe ſuppoſed towards the heauens; ſo that ſhe cried, O happy Gnoſsian *Aryadne*, that thy woes haſt foūd a diety to eternize thy woſulnes: ſhine euer in the heauens, and be thou euer my Sunne that I may ſee no light but thy memorie: Many ſuch like moanes ſhe vttred in the cōtinuance of her iourney, being euer & anon incountred with ſuch like deuiſes, one ſeconding another ſo ſwiftly that they left her no time to ruminat of any one preciſely

which

which to recount to your alreadie-wearied hearing, would but lengthen my too-ill musicke and ouer-poise with trouble your attention; therefore I will omit the storie of *Pyrramus* and *Thysbie*; of *Phyllis* and *Demophoon*, and many other records of fore-going ages.

Hellen being now com'd almost within the view of the cittie *Phalautus*, mounted vpon a most faire Neapolitan Courser, & accompanied with an hundred knights, besides Esquires, and baser attendants, in a most solemne and stately maner, met her vpon the way; and hauing (when she had lesse cause to make much of melancholy) made tryall of her resolution in miserie, omitted all maner of ceremonious perswasions, and onely gaue her that intertainment which stoode most agreeable with her distemperature, adding teares to teares, sighes to sighes, and out-cries to lamentations: hauing learned all this Phylosophie, that to sooth Melancholy, is to take away Melancholy, and not to contradict the humor, is to giue it knowledge of the errour in the humor. After him came all the Magistrates and chiefe Burgers of the citie, whose low lookes and vnpleasant gestures, gaue assurance, that where the best part is diseased, there the vnder-seruing members must of necessitie pine in a languishing weaknesse. And thus they marched in a sad triumphantnesse, like an ore-comming host, that vanquishing many, by the losse of one particular, is notwithstanding subiect to a subdued heauinesse. Now when shee was com'd to the port of the Citie, and was readie to enter in, she was there met with all the Damzels and virgins thereof, who attyred Nymph-like in loose silkes, which the breath of euerie ayre wantonly carried, and moued about them, with baskets of Rouis, and the most choyse

ſmelling flowers which that clime affoorded, vpon their armes; ſtrewing all the Streetes through which the Queene ſhould paſſe, the out-ſide of the houſes thereof being that day apparelled, eyther in Tiſſue, cloath of Gold, Veluet, or rich Arras, as if the richneſſe of ſuch cloathing, ſhould either hide from her the woſulneſse which for hir woes was concealed within them; or that making a Sabboth for her home-come, euery one triumphed in his wedding garment. And as the Virgins paſsed thus along, ſome with Timbrils, ſome with Kyttes and ſome other newe inuented Inſtruments, to which they accorded the heauie accents of their moſt ſorrowfull voyces, they ſang this mournfull and Elegiacke paſsion:

O Tedious howers that ouer-take ſwift time,
And in the end bringſt backe our wiſht for cares,
By which as by a circle we may climbe,
Vnto the endleſſe height of our diſpaires:
Adde to our grieues, great ages of Lament,
Lorne in our ſelues, and loathed of content.

Thou elder brother to the firſt of all,
Whom men conſume, but neuer can make leſſe,
Thou ſmiling ayme crier at Princes fall,
Father of death, husband of heauineſſe,
Adde to our greeues, great ages of lament,
Lorne in our ſelues, and loathed of content.

For ſince there is no hope in our reſtore,
But like thy minuts ſo our moanes muſt riſe,
And put to moſt this multiplying more,

Warre on woes fall as teare on teares from eyes
Adde to our grieues, great ages of lament,
Lorne in our selues, and loathed of content.

And when the world shall blame thy cruell mirth,
That heapes affliction where Afflictions dwell,
Say long-liu'd Sorrow men doe seldome finde,
And least we may a flowrie pleasure smell:
Adde to our grienes great ages of lament,
Lorne in our selues, and loathed of content.

Say Passion, Humor, Fashion, and Dispight,
Beguile the eye of Sorrow with false teares,
To which that men and Angels may doe right,
By scorning them that shadowes onely beares:
Adde to our greeues immortall liu'd lament,
Lorne in our selues, and loathed of content.

This infinite consort consisting of all the innumerable parts of true sorowe, like a River-swallowing *Behemoth*, dranke vp the vniuersall teares of the worlde, to that the spectators of this egregious lamentation, adiudged this Cittie nothing else but a waste, sadde, and disconsolate *Trophonius*, whose entrance vrged euen the eye of delight to a relenting tearfulnesse; so that euen to such (if such in such a place could bee) as had no feeling of the cause of this felt-woe, yet the touch thereof in the effects of others participated a sympathized wayling to their rockie senselesnesse; and the more when they more earnestly beheldе, in whom and from whom the greatest part, (or rather the whole, which to others lent part, yet like the Sunne had no part lesse

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of that in which she triumphed) was as from a goodly Fountaine deriued: But in the ende, when shee was brought in this mourner-like royaltie to her pallace, which was a most goodly Castell, verie defensiuely fortifyed, and curiously built of rich Marble, in the verie heart of the Cittie.

After many thankes (interrupted with many teares) both to *Phalantus* for his care of her, and to the rest, for the sufferance of her follie, through which she got the knowledge of their loues: she with the dying *Amphialus*, betwixt whom and death was almost sealed the deed of perpetuitie, withdrew her selfe, and was no more seene in publique, for the space of fortie dayes: during all which time, shee bequeathed the desperate case of her loues Lord, into the hands of the skilfull Physition: A man of such age & decrepidnesse, that euen his life acknowledged a loathsomnesse in her habitation, and Nature whome the hande of Arte by mending regenerated, with a malicious enuie languished her continuance, being bettered by that which for her slaue she created. He was by birth an Arabian, and well trayned in the vse of letters, whose neare alliance with the Sun inspiring him with a spritie humor of ambitious knowledge, led him to delight in trauell, and the taste of vnexperienced customes: so that cōming vpon a day to the mount *Ida*, he met with a Nymph belonging to the fount *Gaballine*, of whō being inquisitiue to know the maners of that place, he got the knowledge of the learned Vvel of the habitation of the Muses, and the court of memorie: yet vnsatisfied and wandring further, hee came into the groue, where *Paris* first wooed *Oenone*, saw where they pitched their tydely, where they made their Pitte falles,

where in the heate they lay and mocked the Sun which could not warme them; and in the coole where they bathed, while the Sunne with his gentlest heate, did refresh them; and amongest many reliques left there for remembrances of their loue, hee found that heauenly and rare Booke, which *Apollo* when he was ouer-gone with affection and desire of her beautie, gaue her as a monument to eternize her name before many multitudes of admirable women: in it was the portrature of all hearbs, plants, Mynerals, or what euer belonges to the sacred studie of Physicke, together with their vertues, compositions, effects, and vses: this he tooke, for this *Oenon* had carelesly cast away, when confounded with the burden of care, she was become an out-cast in the worlde, and forlorne of *Paris*. And hence came those vncurable cures, which in the opinions of men made his name with such vnspeakable reuerence adored; and this still he practised vpon the wounded *Amphyalus*, with such prosperous seruiceablenes, that in few dayes he brought backe vnto him life, and his seruant remembrance; who yet not peace with that life which with former vpbrayding he had violently put forward to destruction, began afresh to gall him with newe thoughts of that auntient Disdaine, wherewith the most excellent *Philoclea* had disfigured and ouerthrowne the beautie of his fortune; so that the inuisible wound of his soule, rankled and kept open the Vlcer of his bodie; his newe life being an olde death worse then the bodie and the breathles diuorcement; which once perceyued by this most learned father of science, he immediately applyed those Antidots to his vnderstanding, which drowned all the faculties of his mind in a Lethe of forgetfulnesse; and he became

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ſuch an *Iris* in the mutable exchange of his reſolutions, that hee had all the colours in the which any paſsion could be diſguiſed, except that in which the memorie of *Phyloclea* alone was clothed, and that from the Genuine ſenſe of his beſt thoughts, had ſuch an *Anathema*, or deuided excommunication, that like a Rauens-foſter line, caſt vp into the woods to ſeeke a deſolate fortune, hee had vtterly forgone, and ſhaked off the memorie of her which being the moſt precious thing in the worlde, hee had made of her a more precious and deare eſtimation. And now for exchange, both his reaſon, iudgement, and affections, as the Actuaries or ſetters downe of his wils Cronicle preſented vnto him, all the perfections and vertues of the truely louing *Hellen*. Now he ſaw in her beautie, which onely beautifying it ſelfe, beautified all things that to it ſelfe was adioyned: An eye that ſpeaking with many tongues of delight, ſpake onely with the tongue of true affection; A brow wherein dwelling all the Maieſties of diuine greatneſſe, yet onely ruling with one which was the moſt humbleſt wiſdome. In briefe, he now ſawe (that euer before had he not beene will-blind might haue better ſeene) a Ladie full of annoynted royalties; royaltie exceeded in beautie; beautie in vertue; vertue in wiſdom; and wiſdome in the excellent prouidence of her generall carriage: in-ſo-much that as his wound healed, his heart feſtred; and as his life ſtrengthned, ſo the loue of that life weakned: euen now feare and ſhame ſeaz'd tyrannouſly vppon him, feare; leaſt his deſerts ſhoulde call in account the puniſhment of his life: and ſhame, that he had no Apologie to defend him from the diſdaine he feared. Feare, and Shame; Deſerts, and Diſdaine, like a quadruple cuall, or a torment in foure parts,

racke thus his mind almost to the height of desperatnes; which no sooner perceiued by her, whose want of pittie had framed al her thoughts in the pitifulst mould of mercie, but instant relefe, vpon such worthy & honorable cõditions, as might iute with the seuerest respect of vertue, gaue him that lite of cõtentment, which euen angels thẽselues celebrat as the best thing belõging to our creation. Excellent & worthy Sir, for my countrey brought-vp tongue, to ascribe to it self words matchable with the height of those incõparable ioies which in either of these two great ones was vniuersally bestowed, through the blessed cõiunction of their diuine match, were arrogance and weaknesse; because in their humours, and passions, they as farre go beyond the leuels of our capacities, as in their estates, honours, and heroycall promotions: onely let it suffice me to say, *Amphyalus* at last with a worthie loue enioyed the nobly louing *Hellen*, the triumph at whose coronation and wedding gained such a Superlatiue cõmendations in the praises of al tongs, that I know there is no worthy ear vtterly void of the knowledge, the rather, since al *Greece* is ful & euer wilbe in labor with the deliuerance of those wonders. Immediatly after this triumphit mariage, *Basilius* died, & *Amphyalus*, with his Q. came into this country of *Laconia*, whose crown he challenged & possessed by his vncles testament: but whether the nature of the country, which euer haue bin ominous to the Princes thereof, or the star-crost destiny of her poor Lady (to whõ euẽ destenie was beholden for the patient inheritance of her affection) were the nefarius & bloodie conspirators of her vntimely and abortiue euill, I know not: but soothly then this there is nothing more credible that they had not continued togither many yeares, ere

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the cinders of old diſcõtentment (which whether ſtirred vp by his flatterers, or inkindled by his ſpies, thoſe Emiſſaries & canker-worms of a peaceful continuance) brake into a prodigious eruption, or maine fire of diſpleaſure in his before beſt-ſeeming to be cõtented minds: the particularities whereof I cannot capitulate againſt, becauſe they be myſteries concealed from our knowledges, only ſome two years ago, when the bleſſednes of his preſence made vs forget the miſeries would follow his abſence, & leaſt fearing what moſt to be feared, came poaſting vpon vs, vnknowne to any but thoſe of his moſt priuateſt coũſailes, he departed from this land, diſguiſed in an armor of vnknowne mettall, which the skilfull Arabian his late Phyſitian, by a moſt vnreuealed Art had beene many yeares in making: and for a remembrance giuen it to *Amphyalus*, as a Iewell of more woorth then all the worlds reuenue: and vnder whoſe coūert hee might compaſſe thoſe conqueſts, which ſhould out-reach the height of poſsibilitie. And doubtleſſe if the Erraticall tongue of fame haue not taken too great a taſte of miſreporting, he hath ſince his departure effected wonders, beyond the wonder of expectation. But he had not been abſent many Moneths, ere the rupture and impoſtume of our euils broke like a windie Meteor through the bowels of our fortunes, and ouer all the land (after many night-ſtill mutterings) it was ſounded with day-heard exclamations, that *Hellen* was turned retrograde in her vertues, become diſloyall to her husband, broke her faith with her Loue, diſhonored marriage, foyled cõmunitie, ſlandered beauty, & was the efficient cauſe of the liuing death, wherein *Amphyalus* liued eternally exiled. This generall defamatorie (and as as I hope) libellous

report

report had so many thousand Proselytes, or children of Error, which with winged tongues gaue it a free way and a nimble passage, that all-be it Bastard-like knewe no father but that *Hydra* or monster Multitude; tongues accusing tongues, Fame, fame; eares, eares; but no knowledge, no true vnderstanding; yet the loue of our King, and such a King of such a diuine integritie, meeting with our feare, which for his absence discouered the least perill that any way could threaten our estate with hazard, made Beliefe become a slaue to report, and prouidence to wade no further then the limits of a restrained fancie: whereupon the sorrowfull Queene, whose omnipotent sorrow for her Lords losse, might either witnesse her innocence, or haue excused the addition of other woes, since not any was more insupportable then that she carried, being attached by Rumor, was indited by Report, condemned by Heresay, and adiudged by We wil haue it so; Feare lodging in the eyes of Wisedome, and Affection in Iudgement. It was bootlesse to excuse where millions did accuse, and in vaine to wish the truth, when had he come cloathed in contrarie colours, he would neuer haue beene beleeued: in this manner the carefull, comfortlesse, and despised Ladie, continued till within these fewe dayes, when Opinion (by what meanes wee know not) growne to a stronger (but heauen knowes how much better) resolution, called the dying Queene to a publike account of her Countryes ouerthrowe; to which shee not able to giue other answere then teares, sighes, out-cries, and protestations, was forth-with adiudged by a generall Edict of all the now greatest rulers in this land, to be brought to this place, and here to bee put into a masklesse Caruile, which conueyed by a con-

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uoy of other ſhippes into the midſt of the *Euxine* Sea, there to reſtore her to the mercie of the waters, and the predeſtinate ende of her vnhappie ſtarres reuolutions. This is the day of her exilement: his the execution place of her iudgement; & here in this creeke lies the Caruile which muſt carry her to her deſireleſſe long deſired intombment. For this, riſe we ſo earely to bemoane her miſaduentures, and to exclaime againſt the Sea if it would claime intereſt in the blood of ſo ſuperexcellent a beautie. And thus you know what wee know: which al-be I deliuer Beare-whelpe-like without ſhape, or perfection, yet may your happie knowledge forme it in ſome Angel-mould of bleſſed fortune; and to make you more aſſured of my reports trunes, if I be not deceiued, yond blacke cloud which ariſeth with increaſment from the earth, ſhould be the fatal (& in that vnhappy) conductors of the wofull Q. to her miſeries miſerable ending.

At theſe wordes *Pyrophilus* ſuddenly lift vp his countenance, and perceiued from farre a troope of horſe, that came poaſting thither-ward, at which ſight awakened, Honor began to rouſe herſelfe in his ſpirit, and lifting vp the cheerfulnes of his hart, he ſaid in himſelf, O my ſoul, thou heauenly gueſt of an earthly manſion, either this day will I make thee a free Citizen amongſt the ſtarres, or ſending my Fame beyond the ſtarres, plucke Vertue perforce from almightie darkneſſe: O my life, I haue little loued thee, yet loue thee now dearely, ſince thou art preſerued for ſo holy, and ſo worthy an oblation: And this ſaid, hee departed from the ſhepheards, with ſuch an amazed violence, as that if his intraunced ſenſes had but the while before ſlumbred in a ſwoundine diſcourſe, and now beene awaked with ſome *Elixar* of his

owne imaginations, he was caried by himselfe so farre beyond himself, that forgetting the due adiew of cõmon curtesie, he left his vertue to their most seuerest censure: And running to meet the near-drawing troope, placed himself in that way which of force they must passe; And assoone as the first vancurrer incoũtred with him face to face, with fair & reuerent speeches he demãded of whẽce the retinue was, what royal person they guarded, and to what ende their iourney was directed? the other whose clay-bred coldnes had no feeling of the heat of honor (& the rather to behold the Princes foot-going weakneſſe) inrespect uely without answere would haue passed by him, had not the Prince staid his horse by the head-stall of his bridle: at which the inciuill Squire, not onely with churl ish words, but the offer of a blow threatned his own freedom; still the other hauing euer held himself a strãger to such salutations, & more then angry with his immodest behauior, inraged, pulled him frõ his horse with such an infinit power, that he brake his neck in the falling, and sent his soule to tell *Pluto* what is the true desert for inciuilitie; whilest at the very instant, the most admirable & heroyicke *Pyrophilus* mounted vpon his slaine aduersaries horse, and drawing his sword, which he did more to defend his Honor, then to giue honor to any of them by his blowes, fairly paced towardes the rest of the troope, who by this time hauing seene the death of one of their consorts, all with one touch of discontentment, ranne furiously vpon the Prince, and assayled him with the greatest power that any way could proceede from their meane greatnesse: but looke how wee see a Greyhound when hee is inuironed with a multitude of little Curres, standes with a milde scornefulnesse, and receyues the

worst

worst of their assault; in the ende checking their audacitie with a reuengefull deadlinesse; euen so the Prince out of his disdaine, receyued their worst malice, and in requiting of their daring, returned them blowes for blowes; but of such vnequall natures, and of such other heauie substance, that manie of their deaths, might haue fore-warned many of them from like deathes: But rage that was euer blinde, and feare which then had so got howto escape from rage; madly lead them on to destruction: so that the may encreased, and the Prince founde much difficultie in defending himselfe from their manie defyances: partlye because hee was loath to spill so much weake blood, and partlye because hee wished a lesse punishment for an offence of rudenesse: But when some small woundes (which for want of care hee had receyued) tolde him the effect of greater mischiefe, he banished the remembrance of all mercie, and like a Panther robbed of her yong ones, left not of thirtie Knights and Squires one breathing soule, to weepe his fellowes ouerthrowes, so much did eyter wrath or power, or rather a powerfull wrath, gouerne and direct his instant actions; which being finished, hee went vnto the Coach, and assuring the Gouernor therof (who either through care, or feare, or a fearefull care, amazedly stoode still, yet in seeming readie to runne away like a heauie Foule that often waues his wings ere the ayre can beare him from the earth) that he should haue no hurt, lookt in, and beheld in the one ende a most comely, graue, and portly Lady, in whom though middle age had chidden from cheekes, the vaine boast of youths decaying beautie; yet was her countenance gouerned with such maiesticke

beames of setled modestie, that all men might reade in her eyes a promise of great wisedome; in the other end, two louely and faire yong Gentlewomen, whose attending behauiours shewed them to bee no other then her attendants: But the shadow of his countenance was no sooner seene within the Coatch, when the Lady, First in wonder at his attempt being a stranger, and none to counter-check the strangenesse of his attempt, arose, and looking foorth, saw her men slaine, or so neare slaine, that there was impossibilitie in any ones recouerie, with a spirit that might well seeme to lodge in so noble a breast, she demaunded what he was, wherein she had offended, or what triumph hee expected from a victored Ladie? to which with a hie pryed humilitie, that well the beautie of his condition could both deliuer and adorne, he returned this answere.

Excellent Lady, if the sowrnesse of my fortune in this not rash but defensiue action, hath either in your iudgement made weake the power of your trust, or giuen you occasion to grieue at the impouerishment of this poore succour, let the tender of mine endeerest seruice, and the commaundment of my sworde, so much the better by how much it wades before these slaine creatures, in aduantage excuse mine error, and be a witnesse how free my thoughts are from any dishonor to your excellency: but if they were (as be they cannot) the factors of an ill denounced iudgement, to ingrosse vp mischiefs, either against your sacred life, or the title of your vertue, be their owne deserts their ruine, and my sword the iustice of an vpright heauen; Diuine *Hellen*, and sacred Queene of *Corinth*, for no lesse I take you, and lesse beams I do not see in the skie of thy noble gesture: if there be a iustice

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vnder heauen, or that Iustice which so long since fled to heauen, may bee either discouered by power, or inticed from aboue by vertue, I haue this day inlye sworne to mine one soule, to build her vpon these plaines a newe habitation, and for your sake (vppon whose integritie I will erect the foundation of mine honour) to cancell the vtmost bond of life, or chase away the cloudes which passe betwixt the earth and thy reputation; yet Madam, I protest this bloodie beginning was no intended Proem of my seruice, onely the rudenesse of your attendants, nay, I feare your executioners, who with barbarous blowes made answere to a curteous demaund, was it that hath dispeopled you and displeased mee; for which I with a heartie humblenesse, intirelye craue pardon.

The noble Ladie, hauing in his speech taken most amplified notes of a princely magnanimitie; and beholding in the hie top-gallant, of his valour, so low a decline to honour absolute weakenesse, and withall studying vpon the error of his conceyte, which had mistaken her for *Hellen* Queene of *Corinth*, loath to loose an opportunitie so happily ouertaken, And in feare by too suddaine a discouerie, to hazard that which with an earnest longing shee desired, was contented a little (by no denyall) to maintaine his misbeliefe, and therefore in this sort replyed.

Worthie Sir, if I faile in the homage due to so seeming a worthinesse, let my weake sex, and the ignorance attending me in my weakenesse, be the excusefull pardon of my faultinesse: And the lesse I pittie (though euerie death is weepe-worthie) the ouerthrow of these my followers, sith their rude eyes were so bad intelligencers as

would not let their hearts vnderstande, that euen in your outwardest showe, was tokens of more then ordinarie presence: yet let mee intreate you, and coniure you by all those tenders you haue made me of the treasures of your seruice: first to let mee knowe your byrth, fortune, and your hither aduenture, and then not to forsake mee, till as you founde mee you leaue mee againe in the handes of other safetie.

To this he made answere, that as concerning his birth (which he couetted to conceale in the bosom of silence) hee was borne in *Iberia*, and though vnworthily, yet Prince and heyre of that Dominion, his name was *Adunatus*, the bitternesse of whose fortune bore in it such tragicke matter of a life fore-worne, and wasted with the most vnspeakablest miserie that euer absolute miser could intitle miserable; as hee did not onely grieue, but feared to discouer to the worlde the infiniteneesse of his woes, which (as he was perswaded) went far beyond either comparison, or coniecture of the wofullest estate whatsoeuer; and therefore most humblie besought her, that hee might no further reueale the wretchednesse of his mishaps, whose vntunefulnesse would but distaste the noble eare of her vnderstanding; lastly, for his aduenture thither, hee said it was a blessed mischance, and a happy shipwracke, because he hoped that her excellencie (of whose wrongs euen Gods & Angels stood agreeued) should from the hand of his danger reap the new inioyment of her absolute safetie, and therefore that she should not need to command his seruice, but rather study how to imploy his seruice, which all-be worthy matter more precious then the deareneesse of his life.

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commanded him to other far remoued aduentures, yet for her noble vertues ſake he vowed not to depart from her, till her owne free will ſhould giue a reſolute libertie to his other next deſired indeuours.

This princely legacie (ſaid ſhe) is a royall inrichment to the loweſt deſcent of Fortune: But O this worlds faſhion, this courteſhip of words, this father accomplimēt, this honie aire, this bond of breath, this coppi hold right of friendſhip, is no other then the ſhadowes of our bodies, which then at all is not when wee moſt aſſuredly imagine it is, and I feare mee this bequeſt will bee but as the Teſtament of a liuing man, which is apt to change with the change of euerie opinion.

Thinke not ſo Madam (replied he) for you ſhall not finde it ſo, and with that began to lay proteſtation vppon proteſtation, vowe vppon vowe, and oath vppon oath, knitting them all-together with the bond of an vpright Religion; ſo that the Noble Lady (whoſe owne opinion, like a true ſpeaking Augure, deliuered moſt large Propheſies of his excellent ſingularities) vnwilling any longer to detaine him from the knowledge of that where-vnto time and her deſires muſt perforce bring him, in plaine and ſweete framed wordes, graced with the ſtate of ſo well ſetled a countenance, as ſhewed Maieſtie to bee the birth-right inheritance of a royal diſcent, told him wherin he had miſtaken her, and that ſhe was not as he ſuppoſed *Hellen* Queene of *Corinth*; but *Euronusa* Queene of *Tenedos*, one that if loue and affection had power to make two, one was in nothing diuided from that dearelye and euer to be beloued *Hellen*, and that hauing had notice to what damnable vſe this Apoſtate and Poſtridian

day

day was reserued, namely the destruction of her, who till this time had beene the sauegard of many kinglie hearts, and hearts Kingdomes, was come either with her prayers, teares, or the threates of a diuine Iustice, who as the apple of his eye maintaineth the oppressed estate of the innocent, to take away, or at least deferre the vniust rigour of her vndeserued condemnation, to which shee had many hopefull, and well pleasing perswasions, as her estate, power, and kindred, the lawe of Nations, and the opinion of the worlde, apt to rebell where so vnnaturall tyrannie is offered to an annoynted soueraigne; but chiefly and aboue all these, an antient and long exercised acquaintance betwixt her and the noble *Phalantus*, who (as she heard) being a principall actor vpon this stage of suspition, was not vnlikely to rule and ouer-rule the tyde of mutinous and barbarous misconceyued credulityes, and with him she intended to deale so effectually, that he should not onely be free from the detection of so monstrous an imagination, but if not for vertues sake, yet for his Honours sake, him-selfe seeke to vndergoe by the iust tryall of a well managed sworde, the happie meanes of her deliuerance: But (said she) fayre Prince, since the heauens (who in their all-knowing vprightnesse, know what is best for their gloryes and our weaknesse) haue allotted you as a sacred Vmpiere in this deuout and most holy action: Be omnipotent in thy resolutions, goe forward and persist euen to the death in this all-loue-gaining atchiuement, so shal thine honor either exceed the glories of thy great byrth, or thy death be crowned with an immortall Diadem of mens prayses and admirations; Neuer did the vnspotted Moone blush with a more bashfull amaze-

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ment, when miſtaking her deſires, ſhee kiſt the ſleeping cheeke of *Endimion*, then this all-worthie Prince did when hee beheld himſelfe thus intrapped within the commandement of an vnexpected obedience: but when he had called into the depth of his conſideration, the whole account of both their intentions, and ſaw the leuell of their aymes was the aduancement of one intire glorie, and that what honour and pietie ſtirred in him, loue and acquaintance kindled in her; hee abſolutely without further diſputations reſolued that hee had well done, in what he had then done, and how euer the loſſe might redound either to his life or fortune, yet neuer to ſtart aſide, or infringe the leaſt article of his honourable concluded bargaine; and with that alighting, and diſarming one of her ſlaine Knights, and arming himſelfe with his peeces, he mounted vpon his horſe againe, and ryding before the Coach, paced backe to that place where before hee had left the two vnfortunately louing Shepheards, & now found conuocated togither on that reſerued Theather of the moſt worſt expectations, an infinite number of all ſorts of pitiful and vnpitying people, ſome ſhedding teares of true ſorrowe for the accident; ſome weeping to ſee others weepe, and ſome for faſhion ſake to be thought ſoft hearted, though they neither apprehended the terror, nor felt in themſelues any ſympathie of like misfortune; all with one greedineſſe, like an eye-longing Auditory before the beginning of ſome hie ſtate-promiſing Tragedie, looking about and wiſhing to ſee what they made the world by their ſorow beleeue they were loath to ſee,

Amongſt this aſſemblie came the Queene *Euronſa*, and the valiant *Adunatus*, placing themſelues in ſo con-

uenient standings, that nothing eyther by worde or acte, couldepasse without their iudgements or knowledges, with no lesse expectance of what shoulde then insue then the rest, though with farre contrarie determinations; for in the one of them was a Pittie full of Helpe, in the other a power able, and therefore inwardly resolued to helpe, whereas all other succour was but *Pittie*, and *God helpe*, the Pyning charitie of a miserable giuer. But they had not stayed so long in this place, that one could well say they had stayed any thing at all, when there arriued there two Bishoppes, and two graue Lordes of estate, whose wisedomes had built them great honours in the Common-wealth of *Laconia*, and with them (eyther as a defensiue guarde to maintaine the vprightnesse of their Embassage, or as a Bugge-beare to affright the manie headed Monster opinion, euer then readie to bee deliuered from the wombe of common multitude) the most noble and valiant reputed *Phalantus*, armed in a blacke Armour, curiously damaskt with interwinding wreathes of Cypres, and Ewe, his barbe vppon his horse, all of blacke Abiosetta, cut in broken hoopes vpon curled Cypresse; his horse also all blacke, and vpon his shield which was sutable to the sadnesse of his attyre, there was imbossed a flying *Pegasus*, yoaked to a Plough, fastned in the earth; vnder which was written a Greeke sentence which signified, *Compulsion* not *Desire*, and before these rode sixe Pursuants, *not* foure Kings at Armes, in the rich abilliments of *Laconia*: after them a close Litter couered with blacke Veluet, and supported by two blake horses, in which the desolate Queene was borne to her murderous exilement: after her roade

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all the chiefe eſtates of that Countrey, and on eyther ſide, as two guarding wings marched ſundrie bandes of the moſte experteſt Souldiers in thoſe partes, conducted by the moſt principall Captaines of that Kingdome: but when they were come into the middeſt of the preaſe of common people, and that the Barke was towed into the Ocean, and a Barge readie to receyue the Queene to beare her aboord the vnfurniſhed veſſell, there grew ſuch a murmuring confuſion, and ſuch a diſ-vnion of thoughts amongſt the multitude, that like the iarring ſound of many vntuned Inſtruments, they not onely amazed the Nobilitie, but alſo gaue vndoubted cauſe to feare ſome ſuddaine inſurrection: wherevppon one of hie place (called *Coſmos*) whoſe excellent vnderſtanding, was graced with a more excellent eloquence, being lifted aloft vppon mens ſhoulders, after ſolemne Proclaimations made by the ſounde of Trumpets for a generall ſilence, thus with a loud voice ſpake to all that were congregated togither in that preſence.

You people of what kingdome ſoeuer you be, which come to be beholders of this dayes deeds, chiefly you, O you Laconians, to whome the memorie thereof ſhall remaine, writte in the hearts of you and your ſucceſſions for euer; why are you carryed like a Deluge with euerie winde, or affrighted like Babes with inſufficient ſuppoſitions? O call vp your wonted courages, and looke into your owne calamities, whileſt I intende here firſt to denounce vnto you your loſſe which is vnſpeakable, your redreſſe which is vnrecouerable, and the ſacrifice for our euill thought moſt auaileable; your loſſe it is the loſſe of the moſt excellent

Amphialus, a Prince in whom Nature, Arte, and wonder, ſtroue to extoll the omnipotencie of their powers, in the infiniteneſſe of his excellencies; a man of ſuch admirable vertue, that his whole life was the worldes beſt Academie of deereſt beloued goodneſſe, powerfull beyond controlment, harde without raſhneſſe; wiſe without auſteritie, and honourable in the vtmoſt liſts of vnſufferable extremitie; a Lion Lambe, and a lambe-like Lion; an vnuanquiſht goodneſſe, yet a goodneſſe thrall to what euer was good reputed, Nay more, your loſſe is the loſſe of your King, the head and ſoueraigne of your now diſmembred bodies, the ornament of your liues, the maintainer of your weales, & the ſtraite vpholding columbe of your ſelues, your wiues & childrens ſafeties: he that in his hād beares the calender of your peace, regiſtring yeres of playful Sabboths, where before labourſome dayes of mourning by cōtinuall garboyls, were howerly numbred and increaſed; whoſe ſworde was your victorie, & whoſe victories were thoſe glories which made you ſtand admired and adored; your loſſe is the loſſe of the father of your Countrey, that deare father that hath brought her vp to excell all her companions in beautie and perfections, hee that hath made red his eyes with manly weeping, to ſee her in her Cradle, ſicke, weake, and almoſt dying, hee that hath brooded her vnder his winges, fed her with his blood, and lodged her in his boſome, hee that hath made himſelfe leane with watching, leaſt ſhe ſhould periſh in her ſleeping, and he that hath ſlept with pittie, when his errours ſtroue to awake him, to take reuenge of her impieties. This, O Laconians, is your loſſe, the vertuous *Amphialus*, your King, your glorie, your beatitude, and your father; will you

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then looſe all this, and yet reſerue to your ſelues the name of liuing creatures? will you cloath this diſhonour with ſufferance, yet expect to be accounted vertuous? O that it were poſsible, or that drawing theſe wrongs in a Lethe of opinion *Laconia* might either holde her reputation, or you your owne ſafeties. But ſince the all ſurueying eye of Iuſtice will not ſo haue it, be not as examinated carkaſſes, but as eternall ſpirits to redreſſe theſe ruines of your fortunes; Redreſſe, ſaid I, O that there were ſuch a worde left but to guild our remembrances: O no Countrymen, in that alone is the Superlatiue of our miſeries reſerued: there is no redreſſe for our calamitie, no Baulme for our wounde, nor no repeale that can call backe our baniſhed good fortunes; Things hopefull to be amended, may with modeſtie be leſſe by much bewailed; but deſperate Vlcers incurable, are both the mind and bodies continuall torment; were there a time in any time left to beholde his home returning, then might the expectation of that ſeaſon giue ſome ſweete taſte to our afflictions; but all is taken away, all hope, all goodneſſe, all paſt and to come good fortune; for who hath baniſhed him but himſelfe, and who will maintaine his exile but his owne reſolution? him-ſelfe that is the God of his Fortune, and his Reſolution a decree like Fate neuer to be controlled: Is it likely that he who moſt preiudicately ſawe his owne ill, and eſchewed it, will ſeeke to reuiue that euill, and anew to returne vnto it? It cannot be imagined, or if it could, the vowes he hath throwne throughout the world are impregnable Bulwarkes to withſtande his returning, hauing ſworne by his princely hand neuer againe to beholde *Laconia*. If he then be valiant, that ſpirit will de-

taine him; if he be wise his wisdome will make his vowes lawfull; and if he be iust, there can no iniustice shine in his actions. And to the first, let his conquests speake, to the next his gouernment; and to the last, both the world & you that are his people. Thus is our amends frustrate, and Redresse slaine vtterly dead for euer; Is it then in your opinions tollerable to loose him, to lacke remedie, & neither to him nor vs yeeld any satisfaction? the gods forbid! then our satisfaction must be the abolishing of that euill by which our first euill was ingendred, which is the life of *Hellen*, euen *Hellen* the too-early late-crowned Queene of our Country, she that hath ouerthrown the goodly temple of her vertue, by an inuertuous communicating of those beauties which to him onely should haue bin for euer most dearly preserued; she that in her loue hath beene false to *Amphyalus*, dishonorable to herself, and an vtter ruine to vs, you, & this country. If then you will haue your King restored, restore him by her death, for in her ending must cõsist the best of his liuing, and in this action doth the world infinitely gaze vppon you, to see whether any vaine title of beauty, or perfections can rebelliously with-draw your minds frõ the execution of iustice: restore vnto your selues your auncient honours, by banishing out of the land your dishonours, which is onely she by whom all our infamies are maintained; and that this may bee performed by such a direct mean of wel intending, that no seuere iudgemẽt may attach vs of crueltie; thus haue the Senat & Lords of *Laconia* decreed, that *Hellen* shall bee conuaid into a Caruill masteslesse & saile-lesse, vnmand, vnuittaild, & of all munition vnfurnished, which being toaed forty leagues into the maine Ocean, there be left to the mercy of the gods,

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the ſeas, and her own fortune: if ſhe be blameles, her preſeruation will be doubleſſe; if faulty her end will be twiſt and without pittie; how euer in vs will be nothing but the diſcharge of a moſt loyall dutie, wherefore as many as loue *Amphyalus*, wiſh for *Amphyalus*, or hope for the benefite of his bleſſed ſight, throw vp their hats as a ſigne of conſent to the execution of this noble iuſtice.

The whole aſſembly whoſe minds were variouſly caried vp and and downe with a deſire and feare, or a fearfull deſire to wiſh nothing that might put them in feare of enſuing good fortune; And euen thoſe betwixt whole lippes yet ſtucke the worde of ſafetie, to the neuer-ill deſeruing Queene *Hellen*, were ſo inchaunted with the plaine Rhetoricke of this honeſt-ſeeming Oration, that as if all their ſeuerall bodies had had but one mind, that mind one head, that head but one tongue to vtter their cogitations, caſt vp their caps, and cried the iudgement was excellent, and not to be reuerſed: all be euen at the beginning of the ſpeech ſcarce any two agreed one in opinion, ſome conſenting more for feare then cõſcience, ſome diſſenting as much vpon will as loyaltie, ſome to bee reputed ſtrickt performers of Iuſtice, ſome to bee thought charitable in pittying the innocent, ſome to ſeeme to vnderſtand deeper miſteries then were hid in plaine dealing; and ſome to picke a thanke-ſgiuing of ſuch as might purſue like hard fortune: All in ſuch mutinie of cenſures, that it was impoſſible either to diſcerne Pitie, Mercy, or Iuſtice, vntill the colours of this ſpeech (as alwayes the eyes of common multitude are bleared with ſhowfull reportinges) had brought them to concurre and agree in one Opinion and conſent of her deſtruction, the fearefull fearing the ſcourge

of

of disobedience; the wilfull willing to haue their willes performed; the seuere as delighting in cruelties; the charitable for a counterfaite loue to their Country; the wise to be renowned for their deepnesse; and the flatterers to draw to them a good opinion of well meaning; which no sooner was perceiued by the most politike Queene *Euronusa*, whose heart enkindled her braine with a fierie wisedome, to see the desperate estate where-unto the ayre of wordes drewe her dearest beloued, but breaking through the multitude, and opposing face to face with the Nobilitie of *Laconia*, lifting vp a well tuned voyce, guarded with so reuerent a countenance of glorious Maiestie, as did not onely intice but astonish the beholders, drawing their attentions to a silent dumbnes, she thus made answere to the former Oration.

You Princes, Lords, and Commons of *Laconia*, let neither my presence (how greatly so euer at this time inexpected) nor my wordes (though farre vnsuitable to this voluntarie consent you haue giuen for the killing of a worthe innocent) breede in you so much wonder, as your inconsideracie (neuer till this time knowne, or attached) stirreth in me an admiration beyond the compasse of common admiring, the rather when I behold your grauities directed and led by the blinde eye of no reason; why, whither are your Noble iudgements fled? (till nowe the Schooles of other Nations) where are your faiths? where are your loues? and where are your wisedomes? Are all slaine with insubstantiall wordes, with broken arguments, and vngrounded suppoſes? O that it were as lawfull for me to chide you, as it is most necessarie for your selues, in your selues, to condemne your selues as blame-worthy; you haue this day by your consents

consents hurt onely *Amphyalus*, dishonoured onely *Amphyalus*, and adiudged to death not *Hellen*, but in *Hellen* the liuing soule of *Amphyalus*; in-so-much that if the backe-looking eye of your vnderstanding doe not recall that vnaduised euill of your too-suddaine verdite, it will be too manifestly true (as this Gentleman hath ouer-well deliuered with an ill intention) that your losse will bee vnspeakable, your redresse vnrecouerable, and no satisfaction (though the sacrifices of your owne wiues and children) will in the eye of the world be esteemed available, for it is most certaine, that in loosing her, you loose that Prince, that vertue, that power, that strength, that wisdome, that honour, that Lion, that Lambe, and that goodnesse he hath spoke of; nay that King, that bade, that ornament, that maintenance and colombe of your safeties; and more then this, and more then hee or I can or haue spoken, the diuine father of your kingdome, sith the Sacramentall misterie of two moste intirely louing hearts co-vnited, and inseparably ioyned together; hath made them one flesh, one spirit, and one bodie, so that they are not two but one creature, not he *Amphyalus*, but *Hellen*, nor she *Hellen*, but him you seeke to kill, which is onely *Amphyalus*, for no more then the shadow can be remoued from the bodie (and yet bee a shadow) the breath from life, or the falling riuers frō the Ocean: no more may they be separated, diuided, or disioyned; if then you will not loose him, loose not her in whom is his being, if for himselfe you will destroy himselfe, what thankes can you reape of him, or his admirers? were it not most preposterous in your iudgements, by fire to seeke to quench fire, or to heale a paine, by adding to it a greater paine of the selfe nature and condition? O let

Ignorance it selfe, censure in that position; and what is this you now vndertake, other then such proceeding seeking to cure his sick honor with a mortal Apoplexie? nay, let me descend nearer into your errors, and tell me (O you Laconians) who hath accused her, where are the testimonies of her euill, or who dare to affirme with an vnblushing face that she is guiltie? can your lawes of *Laconia* by fore-poynted doomes prescribe Princes in generall consultations, & find a treason where there is neither fealtie nor allegeance? strange law of a strãge senate. But be all things as you will, shall not the iust hand of the infinite iustice be stretched against you, and your successions, euen to the last generation, if you violate the lawes of Iustice? be assured it will; therefore for your own sakes and safeties, repeale your sentence, or at least deferre it for some few dayes, in which if she procure not a champion that shall with a well ordered sword defend her innocence; let the persecution of her fortune pursue her faultinesse.

At that worde the whole assemblie, with an infinite clamour stopt the further passage of her wordes, and flocking about her like a swarme of Sommer Bees, on the Mount of *Hybla*, cryed, she had but well spoken, and that there was nothing but iustice and reason in all shee had spoken; turning all the rasors of their opinions agaynst that iudgement, for whose maintenance before they were onelye whetted; so variable are the resolutions of the multitude, and so apt to delight in the last sound, how discordante soeuer. Which being perceyued by the politike Queene, who loath that the cold words of any elder wisedome should quench the blaze she had newly kindled; after the bowing

ing of her hand for a token of silence, she againe these or such like words vttered.

Howe sutable to your Noble grauities is this honourable consent (most famous Laconians) who knoweth not that is worthie of any knowledge, & how much in my selfe it shall be both respected and rewarded, witnesse mine hereafter designes, and my present thankfulnesse, for neuer was there anie example of more iust loue, or of the loue of iustice; yet sith delay is the onely torrent of hope, and Desire the sworne enimie to expectation, that mine innocent sute may be stained with neither of their imputations, beholde here the most excellent Prince of *Iberia*, the famous *Adunatus*, who willing to expose his sacred person in so notable a defence, standeth to approoue her neuer to-be-blotted innoceny.

Scarce had the Queene deliuered these wordes, when *Cosmos* againe stept forth, *Anger* and *Disdaine* warring in his countenance, willing to defende what was indefencible, began to seconde his first speech; But the common people, according to their common custome, when either they heare what they woulde not, or are come to the full poynt of what they expected, began some to hemme, some to cough, some to spit, making such a *Babell* of confused vtterances, that neither were his wordes reteyned, or respected; which perceiued by *Adunatus*, who pressing forwarde with his horse, as a signall of somewhat hee had to say, the people instantly were calmed, and hee lifting vp his Beuer, thus spake.

Fire (my noble Lords) is neuer quencht with swords; nor wel grounded resolutions altred with weak perswasions; then why go you about by aire to alter that which

euen by the destinies I perswade my selfe is foredoom'd and decreed; the offer is noble and not to be refused, the reasons strong and not to bee refelled, and my selfe willing, neither by any other aduenture whatsoeuer to bee withdrawn or concealed; for a seal to which noble deed I beseech you all, my Lords, remember and publish this my protestation. First, I protest this hapless Queene to be vertuous, immaculate and innocent, of all her vnkinde husbands imputations: and sith she hath no accuser but his iealousie, euen to that iealousie, and that tongue which hath beene the Herauld to that iealousie, I heare denounce the lie, & will with this constant hand guided with my resolued heart, be readie to defend the same against *Amphialus*, the world, or by whom so euer I shall be called.

He had no sooner made this protestation, but the people gaue a great showte, and the Nobilitie seeing how this deluge had drowned all their former resolutions, with vnwilling willingnesse gaue consent to the motion, decreeing the execution should be deferred, and messengers dispatched through all the forraigne parts of Christendome, to giue notice to *Amphyalus*, of all that had passed in their proceedings: but *Euronusa* loath to leaue *Hellen* in the hands of her executioners, fearing eyther the hate of age might worke hurt for policie; or the flatterie of youth might faile in a distressed fortune, shee humbly besought the Lords of *Laconia*, that they would deliuer vnto her the vnhappie Queene, whom by the vowes of her princely worde, and all the obligations which could tie so great an Empresse, shee solemnely swore to bring forth vnto them again vpon fortie dayes warning, whensoeuer they should commaund, for the tryall

tryall and hazard of her fortune.

The Nobilitie, as willing a little to flatter *Hellen*, whose best fortunes were not altogether confounded, as loath by her detaining to giue larger limits to her hatred, consented to the Queenes requests, & accepting her princely worde for her redeliuerie, in most humble manner gaue the wofull *Hellen* to the noble *Euronusa's* protection, excusing much of that inexcusable courte, which with such wilfulnesse they had pursued. Now was the meeting of these two Queenes full of pasion & delight: Pasion in their woes, Delight in the excellencie of their woes: but after a little enterchange of sorrow (which humour though of some it be helde base and coward; yet of others it is esteemed the ornament of Age, Vertue, and Continence) they hauing in their embracements and kisses, told the tongue-tied message of their herts, began now in solemne sort to take their leaues of the Lords and States of *Laconia*; the wofull Queene *Hellen*, in her silence, shewing that she desired nothing which themselues did not first desire. But *Phalantus* humbly crauing her to measure his doings by the power he had to doe, and not to let his silence condemne what his busie thoughts were in labour to bring to passe, besought both the Queenes to accept his seruice, and that they would vouchsafe him leaue, to attend them into the Ile *Tenedos*. The Queenes right gratefully accepted his offer, and so after many accõpliments twixt him and the worthie *Adunatus*, they departed on vpon their iourney, where hauing past through the Countrey of *Laconia*, and a great part of *Peloponesus*, without any aduenture worthie noting, they came at length to those sands which lie agaynst the Ile *Cythera*, from whence by an

euen line they may passe to *Tenedos*; there they found attending for the Queene *Euronusa* sixe Gallies, which had formerly watted her ouer; into which so soone as the Queenes were readie to enter, the most excellent *Adunatus*, with a countenance as full of Maiestie as loue, (yet neuer any countenance more dearly beloued) humbly besought the Queenes that hee might attende them no further in that iourney, but that like an exanimated carkas, or a soul-lesse man (for other he protested he was not) he might spend some few dayes in the quest of his friend, whose absence was vnto him the absence of all comfort whatsoeuer, which friend (he saind) hee had lost by shipwracke immediately before his incounter with the Queene *Euronusa*; to this intreatie he adioyned a solemne oath, and an inuiolable protestation, once euer in forty dayes to giue notice to the Queenes, where, or in what place hee remained, that whensoeuer he should bee called, eyther by *Amphyalus*, or any other, hee woulde bee prepared to giue an account, both for his owne, and the desolate Queenes fortune.

The Queenes greeued at his desire, yet were loath to grieue at anie thing hee should desire, loath in themselues to countermaund any his demaundes, yet wishing a power to commaund his demaundings, with teares in their eyes (the true messengers of their loues) and humblenesse in their lookes (perfite badges of their obedience) they answered him, that since in his vertues was the felicitie of their liues, and that as lesser Spheares they were onely moued by the power of his greatnesse, it became them not eyther to question or contradict, onely this they besought him to imagine, that his presence was vnto them as the Sunnes faire

beames

beames to the ſtorme-wrackt Mariner, and his abſence like the bower of indurance in the houſe of affliction; but ſith his content muſt be begot by their diſcontents, they were willing to bee pleaſed with their greateſt diſcomfort.

Thus after innumerable teares ſhed, and many hearty departures, the *Queene* hauing appointed her choyſeſt Galley to attend the Prince in his iourney, giuing him ſundry moſt rich iewels for the teſtimonies of her friendſhip, they went all aboord, the two *Queenes*, and *Phalantus*, directing their iourney for *Tenedos* the Prince *Adunatus* holding his courſe for *Cythera*, and the lower Hands, but there he found nothing but that hee would not haue found, a certain abſence of his friends preſence: thence he returned backe into Greece, to ſee if at the *Olympian* games he were preſent; but the ſports were to him wearyſome, or not at al becauſe *Thaumaſtus* was not there at all: from the *Olympian* games, hee went to the games *Pithii* (celebrated in the honor of *Apollo*) but foūd them lonely, becauſe without his friendes companie, from thence to *Corinth*, and to the ſtrait of *Iſthmus*, to ſee if at the games *Iſthumi*, (founded by *Theſeus* in the honor of *Neptune*,) his friend might bee found; but no place yeelding him the comfort of his friend, he grew comfortleſſe in himſelfe. Thence hee went to the games *Nemei*; thence in Creete, to ſee if at *Pirrhus* daunce hee were preſent: but finding euerie place as ſpeechleſſe as him-ſelfe was hopeleſſe, hee directed his way vp into *Theſſalia*, where hauing trauailed ſome fewe dayes, hee came to the skirts of the Mountaine *Oſſa*, whoſe well-raiſed Brow ſeemed to be a counſell-keeper with the Firmament, and whoſe well proportioned huge-

hugeneſſe, and well apparelled beauty, teſtified the great dicty of our firſt grandame Nature. Keeping his way by this mountaine, he arriued at the head of the riuer *Penaus*, whoſe ſmooth delicacie, and delicate ſmoothneſſe, did forcibly inuite the eye of the traueller, to wonder at the ſmoothneſſe. Here the Princes horſe finding his maiſters care, careleſſe of his labour, began to tyre, and with a ſuddaine ſtop taught him to know, that violence is without continuance: whereupon the Prince alighting from his backe, and plucking off his Bridle, gaue him leaue to feede vpon the choyſeſt graſſe, whileſt himſelfe withdrawing himſelfe into a goodly wood of Pine-trees neare adioyning, where thinking to make the neglect of ſleepe a comfort to ouer buſie care, hee began to lay himſelfe down vnder the Canopie of a goodly Pine, but a little keeping his eyes open, that they might after cloſe with more ſatietie, he might beholde hard by him a thicke, darke, and moſt obſcure groaue, where bramble, Thorne, and Brier, had with ſo many interlacings and interchangeable windings, knit & co-vnited their branches together, that the all-pearcing Sunne had not power to dart his ſmalleſt beames through the wydeſt Caſements; at this the Prince a little amazedly looking, thinking that Nature ſhould not beſtow ſo great Arte vpon ſo baſe matter, he might behold (though halfe obſcured with the leſſer trees) a little Arch, which men might imagine a doore, yet ſuch a doore as would ſcarſe giue entrance to a Pigmy without ſtooping, ſo cunningly cut through the middes of the thicket, that it gaue the eye a little more liberall paſſage into the bowels of that night-like darkeneſſe. The Prince wondring at his imaginations, which preſented him with nothing but

imagi-

imaginarie wonders might at laſt perceiue come creeping vpon his hands and knees through that little Arch a moſt decrepped and aged old man, who with the help of his Crutch (the onely companion of his weakneſſe) rayſing himſelfe from the ground, he diſcouered the only Monument of Nature, Time, and mans weakneſſe; his bald-head circled with a few milk-white haires, and his long gray beard girdling his withered cheekes, looked like the flakes of ſnow vppon the Alpes, or Pyreneans: his hollow eyes hid in red cabanets, neuer weary of weeping for their youthes wantonneſſe, looked like two decayed Lampes, whoſe Oyle was conſumed; next his skin he wore haire-cloath for repentance, and vpon it a gray gowne for warmth, which maintaining life, made more large his repẽtance. At his girdle his Beads, in his hand a Book, whoſe leaues were worne with often turning, and ſullied with the teares of his true contrition. Thus being come forth to ſucke vp the ayre of this wholeſome place, ſitting downe vpon a neighbour banke vnto the groue, and lifting his eyes to heauen, the Prince might heare him deliuer theſe or ſuche like ſpeeches.

O Ambition, thou neighbour vnto Kings, companion with greatnes; why doſt thou bewitch vs with ſocietie, yet giueſt the firſt taſte of ſolitarineſſe? why ſeekeſt thou to be alone, yet vſurpeſt on many kingdomes? O it is not thy dietie ouer vs, but the ſickenes of our ſoules within vs, which Reaſon and Wiſedome muſt cure, els can no place or diſtance recouer: thou doſt preſent the ſhape of lonelineſſe to make vs alone miſerable. But reſt with thine vnreſt in the boſome of greatneſſe, whileſt I ſalute thee my true ſolitarines, thou which makeſt Con-

tent depend vpon our selues, and vntiest the knots which bindes vs vnto others, gaining vnto men this triumph, that in liuing solitarily men liue at ease, thou which euer presents vnto our mindes the *Ideaes* of Vertue, whose well ordered gouernment sets in order all disordered imaginations, containing mans selfe in himselfe, without the assistance or helpe of forreine societie bringing vnto mans knowledge all true felicitie, which enioyed (according to the measure of vnderstanding) rests in himselfe satisfyed without further ambition of long life or vaine-glorie; Loe (sacred *Pan*) this is my true and pure Phylosophie, which inspired by thy God-heade makes blisse-full my solitarinesse. And here he pausèd as if his breath had enuyed his vtterance, or his heart beene greeued, that he should throwe into the ayre the Heauen of her cogitations, at which the Prince arysing vp, seeing there was no hope of further meditation, and putting off his Helmet that the cheerefulnesse of his face might bannish the terror of his armour; with a maiestie full of beautious loue, and louely curtesie, hee saluted the olde man, wishing him those happie howers which might make age most happie, and that life, which to those yeares might neither bee tedious, nor loathsome, Desiring him therewithall first to let him knowe the condition of the soyle wherein hee nowe was, next the state of his olde age, and solitarye abyding: lastly, what aduentures were vnachieued, which might bring honour to the vertuous.

Excellent sonne (saide the olde man) for I dare not call thee *Pyrophylus*, least in denying thy name thou giue me cause to suspect thy vertue, knowe this soyle where-

whereon thou treadeſt, is a part of *Theſſalia*, one of the moſt fruitfulleſt, and delectableſt Prouinces in all Greece, this Mountaine is called *Oſſa*, yond Riuer *Penaus*, which glyding with gentle pace, twixt it and *Olympus* watereth and beautifyeth the onely excellent worke of Nature, and Garden of the worlde the *Theſſalian Tempe*, for my ſelfe I am called *Eugenio*, whom nintie nine Winters hath Froſt-nypt, and diſtempered, and as manie Sommers hath Sunne-burnt and inflamed; I haue ſeene the change of many Kings, and many alterations in Religion: Men call me Prophet, but I profeſſe my ſelfe onely a Prieſt vnto the greate God *Pan*, whoſe Chappell ſtandes within this groaue, and on whoſe Altar I dayly burne the ſacrifice of the righteous: As for aduentures in this place, though there bee none ſo worthie as may by due make challenge to thy vertue, yet bee there ſome ſo vertuous as pleaſe thee to approoue, will adde much to thine infinite goodneſſe.

The Prince hearing himſelfe called by his owne name, in a place where euer till that time hee had beene an vtter Straunger, and with all vnderſtanding, howe neare hee was vnto the Paradiſe of all delights, the *Theſſalian Tempe*, the report whereof had in former tyme ſo inchaunted his eares, that his heart could haue no quiet, till his eyes might bee made the Iudges of ſuch notable perfections, but aboue all and which in him had a Superlatiue gouernement, exceeding all (the promiſe of ſome vertuous aduenture) grewe ſo much ſurpriſed with amazement, and that amazement ſeconded with ſuch an vnreſiſtable *Deſire*, that perſwading himſelfe

his onely deare friend, the renowmed *Thamastus* (being the groūd of his desire) could not be absent from a place so infinitely desired; with a most humble curtesie mightily remarkable in such an heroycall spirit, taking the old man by the hand, said.

Most holy Priest, and diuine father of contemplation, in whose breast the heauens haue lockt vp the treasure of their counsailes: vouchsafe, I beseech thee, (vnto me a man) to discharge those knowledges, which may concerne the honour I professe, or the relieſe of any innocent creature distressed; and I protest that all-be the life I haue lost being mine owne life, lodged in the bosome of one by much many decrees dearer then my breathing, calles me to an howerly quest of mine onely beloued; yet for vertues sake (father) which hath euer beene my Goddesse, and for your owne sake, whom I finde to be Vertues admirer, I will not spare any time or danger to accomplish what thy reuerence shall thinke meete for mine vndertaking.

The olde man replied; sonne sit downe by me vpon this greene banke, and I will tell thee a storie of much crueltie, more inconstancie, but most almightie loue; wherein if thou shalt heare any thing to grieue thee, with *Democretes* laugh at the worlds vanity: if any thing to make thee smile, weepe with *Heraclytus*, that loue should make Reason foolish: what euer thou heareſt, applie to this present age, and say the world is old, & must needs goe vpon Crutches With that the Prince sitting downe, and locking his attentiue eares vnto the olde mans speech, *Eugenio* thus began.

This Countrey of *Thessalia*, amongst all his neighbor Kingdomes, was euer held in singular account, as well

for

for the ſtately ſcituation, fruitful ſoyle, & faire buildings, as for the noble inclinatiō of the people, who hated diſobedience as the image of a barbarous nature, & ambitiō as an engine to ouerthrow the Towers of greater ones; but aboue all, her honour hath of late beene eſpecially aduaunced through this miracle of Time and Nature: this excellent compoſition of all terreſtriall perfections, I mean this moſt famous Tempe, which being but a ſmall plot of ground in compariſon of the great kingdome of *Arcadia*, dares yet to make boaſt of her Shepheards, of her flowers, and of her ſheepes teuenewes. This Tempe was at firſt called *Natures Eden*, becauſe in it was no part of mans workmanſhip; yet the worke in Arte more ſtrāge thē the Art or work of mā could correct: the trees did not ouergrow one another, but ſeemed in euen proportions to delight in each others euenneſſe: the flowers did not ſtriue which ſhould be ſupreme in ſmelling, but cōmunicating their odours, were content to make one intyre ſweete ſauour; the beddes whereon the flowers grew, diſdained not the graſſie Allies, but lending to them their luſtre, made the walkes more pleaſant: the faire ryuer *Penaus* would at no time ouerflow his bankes to drowne their beauties, but with gentle ſwellings waſh them like a deawie morning: the ſprings did not challenge the riuer, becauſe his water was not as theirs, ſo wholeſome, but paying their tribute into his boſome, made him able to beare ſhippes of burthen; the houſes were not angrie that there were Arbors for pleaſure, but ſhadowing thē vnder their hie rooſes, did ſafegard them from tempeſts? what ſhall I ſay, Tempe wanted nothing that could make it faire, yet all that it poſſeſſed made it but moſt beautifull, in ſo much that the moſt famous

and euer to bee admyred Prince *Musidorus*, after his retourne fourth of *Arcadia* into his *Thessalia* with his *Pamela*, in remembrance of his Shepheards life, and in honour of that life; in which he had got the honour of his contentmēt, taking a curious surucy both of *Tempe* and all her best beautyes, hee immediatlye built himselfe a moste curious house, euen in the midst thereof, where wanting nothing that might breede delight, hee found the excesse thereof did breede sometimes a loathing of pleasure, neare vnto his owne house, and round about the bordering skirts of this *Tempe*, hee built manye prettye and conuenient cottages; in which hee placed certaine Shepheardes whose well tempered myndes (finding the ambition of better aduaunced people, smallye auayle to the attainement of true felicitye) are the onelye schooles to teach their forrayne Neighbours, that their industrye and prouidence neyther giueth hope of disturbance, nor example of generall or priuate quarrell: into this place he would seriously retire himselfe in the voide time of his progresse, as much to renewe his remembrance with his past knowledges as to better his instant knowledge with newe matter worthye of moste excellent remembrance, so exceeding wittye were the Shepheardes by him there placed, and so much excellencye did his presence administer to them which were but simplye witted; neare vnto his owne house, hee buylt a fayre and sumptuous Temple *Circular* and in forme of the auncient Iewes Sinagogue the outside of marble, containing fiftie Arches, euery Arch a dore, each dore seauen windowes, each window seauen Pyllasters of Iet, and porphetye, each pillaster

laſter, ſeauen images of the Saints, Sages, and worthies of paſt ages. This Temple hee dedicated to the greate Goddeſſe *Diana*, and indowing it with a Metropolitan authoritie, ſubiected not onely vnto thoſe lawes (which lawes are ingrauen in certaine Pillars of Copper and Marble, adioyning to the Temple and other places) the Reſidents, homeborne, and ſtraungers in that prouince, but euen himſelfe his crowne and ſucceſsion; In this place, and in this rurall companye, hee tooke a more then moſt contented delight, they ſeeking by Eglogues, paſtoralles, ſhepheardly contentions, and other ſports of witte and courage, as running, leaping, wraſtlinge, throwing the Darte, the Stone, and the Maſſye axeltree to ingraſte in his ſetled Iudgement a ſetled continuance of thoſe harmles commendations. This continuing the happy dates of this more happy King, death comming to challenge his ſubiect nature, & taking from the eye of the world, what the worlds eye moſte dearely eſteemed, (I meane this renowned *Muſidorus*) hee left behinde him as the onely heyre of his Kingdome and perfections, the alone incomperable *Mellidora*, natures wonder: the Muſes ſubiect, and the Booke of Beautye: the day of delight: the life of loue: and the Iewell of eternitye. But ſhe to whome the ſtrangenes of griefe made the euill ſhape thereof by many degrees much more ouglye, tooke ſuch an incurable ſurfait through her impatience, that eſteeming no commaundemēt (the Fates hauing taken away her onely commaunder) thee gaue herſelfe clerely from the commaundement both of her owne and other paſsions, and by no perſwaſion would eyther take care for the common wealth (to her by her Fathers death ſo deepely ingaged) not comforte

in

in the Crowne, without which the great man imagines there can bee no true felicitie; for which errour, when the Sages of her Kingdome had with an humble chyding shewed her the faults of her wil,& the office of her calling, in the one, painting the effects of her weakneſſe; in the other,the ſeale which muſt aduaunce her to eternall happineſſe; ſhe with a ſad reſolution made them this anſwere.

I know my Lords (as ſound men doe) the effects of Phyſicke,but cannot digeſt taſte of the potions: I know mine euill,but my paſsion ouer-rules me; therefore I beſeech you,be ſuffering as my ſelfe will be patient, giue me the name, take vpon you the nature of mine office; rule you my Kingdome,let me only rule my thoughts: deale you with reaſonable men, whileſt I deale with vnreaſonable paſsions: for I proteſt I will intermeddle with no ſubiect but the ſubiect of my ſorrowes. To what end (faire Prince) ſhall I wade further into the Laborinth of her woe? ſuffice it me thus to ſay, the vertuous *Melidora*,referring the gouernment of her kingdome to a well choſen Senate, and betaking her ſelfe with a conuenient retinue of Ladies and attendants,into this delicate Tempe,hath euer ſince her fathers death liued Nymph-like, exerciſing hunting, throwing the Dart,running,and ſuch Goddeſſe-like pleaſures, wherin ſhe doth ſo farre exceede all poſsible imaginations, that if *Cephalus* him-ſelfe were yet liuing,hee would become a ſuter for her knowledge: Into this Tempe is prohibited by an eſpeciall Edict vppon paine of death, the approach or arriuall of any Prince,Noble-man, or other of Citie qualitie; the innocencie of the place deſiring no commercement, but with innocent creatures,

except

except only at that time when the yong Princes of *Delphos* came to offer to *Apollo* their nine yeares Sacrifice. Into this place not long ſithence, there is come a yong Shepheard, whoſe name is *Thirſis*, borne (as he ſaith) in *Pelagonia*, and recommended thither by eſpeciall Letters from diuers of the ancient Shepheards of *Arcadia*, who hauing Wit the contriuer, & Money the meanes which onely in this age doth aduance fortunes, falling into acquaintance with a ſilly block-headed ſwaine called *Corridon* (one who made folly his beſt wiſdome, and extreame ignorance the depth of his beſt knowledge) hath purchaſed from him, both his flocke, and the priuiledges belonging to his flockes keeping. This *Coridon* becomming now a ſeruant vnto *Thyrſis*, who to attaine the pleaſures of the ſoyle, would not haue diſdained to haue called him maiſter, : All-be I may iuſtly ſay without the feare of reprehenſion, this *Thirſis* hath ſhewed himſelfe ſo excellently endewed with all the admirable partes of perfection, that he may worthily bee tearmed the miracle of this age he liues in; his youth being in the May time of his flouriſh, exceeded with a moſt exceeding beautie, which beautie rauiſhing all eyes, was bettered by vertue that did aſtoniſh hearts; his iudgements tempered with much knowledge, his knowledge coupled to a demure ſilence; what ſhall I ſay, ſo excellent were his good parts, that hee wanne loue in his companions, and admire in ſtrangers, euerie one imitating his actions for their prayſes, and alleaging his words as their beſt authorities. But as we ſee the Curtaine of the night takes from our eyes the glory of the day, yet is the dayes returne no leſſe beautifull; ſo a little Melancholie drawne on by a mightie loue diſtempering his ſoule,

brought him to the vse of much solitarinesse, which solitarinesse like a slie enemie, seeking to steale the minde from the bodie, cloathing himselfe in the roabes of vertue and diuine contemplation, so imprisoned *Thirsis* vnder the arrest of his passions, that in the ende hee began to forsake all companie; sports hee contemned, pastoralles he neglected; his profites wayned, his flock wasted, and himselfe consumed; which being by all his neighbours with much pittie noted, was by many of his best wishers infinitely lamented, especially by a famous Forrester thereby, named *Siluagio*, whose better profession brought him to a better feeling of the mindes infirmityes, and whose best loue being by a strong bonde of not to bee cancelled faith tyed vnto *Thirsis* and his vertues, called him now foorth to seeke some cure for his friends maladie, where-vpon ranging vp and downe through euerie Desart, by path and vnfrequented harbour, he might at last beholde the most pensiue Shepheard lying vnder the protection of an olde withered Oake, whose aged armes being the witnesses of his intollerable woes, seemed to be more olde through his lamentings, which lamentings made euen the ayre in teares to lament for companie. After *Siluagio* had well vndertaken the sight of the sad Shepheard, his eies commaunding his feete to stay, least the sodainnesse of his approach might bee stayned with an vnfriendly welcome; yet with great priuacie, drawing so neare, that his eares might be copartners of the wordes which the louing Shepheard deliuered, after some little pawse hee might heare him vnto his Pype sing this Sonnet following.

In vaine

IN vaine my wittes you labour to excuſe,
The vgly torments of my care-ſtaine minde,
Alledging Reaſons, Reaſon to abuſe,
Sence made by loue a ſlaue by paſsion blinde:
O wit that doſt to appite appeare,
Like Princes flatterers ſmooth and delicate,
Keeping an open paſſage to that eare,
Whereto thy Mermaids ſongs are dedicate,
Delude me now no more, but let me ſee,
The naked Image of my forlorne thought,
Shew me the great woes in my loue which be,
And thoſe much greater my diſpaire hath wrought,
Nay ſhew me that which of woes greateſt is,
My follies fault, to loue and ſure to miſſe.

After he had ſung this ſong, throwing himſelfe vpon the ground, and folding his armes one within another, he began to complaine in this maner.

Miſerable, forlorne, and deiected that I am, howe oft hath the crie of my complaints, and the ſad ſorrowe of my ſpeech compelled the hard rockes, the ſenſeleſſe trees, and the humble ſhrubbes, to a ſhiuering pittie? and how oft (alas) haſt thou my Pype intyced the Valleys, Medowes, and running Springs, with a ſiluer Eccho to replie vnto my ſad ſighing, and in a murmuring faſhion to beare the burden of my lamentation? But ſith I finde thou haſt no power to breath pitty nor ſweetnes, which may ſtir cõpaſsion in that moſt excellent breſt, whoſe diuine reſolutions holds the determination of my life, euen as my hart breaks, break my Pipe: & with that, breaking his Pipe into as many peeces as his heart was mangled with many tormẽts, he fel into a ſwoũd, which perceiued

by *Siluagio*, to whom friendship presented the cause of pittie, and pittie the effect of speedie assistance, he ranne vnto the Shepheard, and folding him in his armes, after life had got a little vpper hande of passion, he spake thus vnto him. What meanes my *Thirsis*? these confounding agonies which rather makes thee trouble these fayre springes with the deluge of thy teares, then giue comfort to the Skie by thy diuine melodie? But *Thirsis* casting his countenance vpon *Siluagio*, yet such a countenance, as rather commanded *Pittie* to suffer, then *Wisdome* to chide the errour of his passion, saide vnto him. Ha *Siluagio*, *Siluagio*, I am euē like vnto my Pipe, whose tune is answerable to the fingers touch, when it strikes it; for if the touch be smooth & soft, the hermony is pleasant; if rude and rough, it iarres & distasteth the hearers, and so of my selfe; My songs are lamentations, touched with the bitternesse of sorrows fingers; O but yet (said *Siluagio*) let me coniure thee, first by our loues, which euen Sauadges haue accounted an honorable friendship; next by the pleasures of our former meetings, when with the eagernes of our desires, we haue attēded the Nimphs in their chasings; and lastly for the Muses sakes, who as true Mystresses of Memorie, inrich thee with those conceites which shall out-liue all remembrances, that thou wilt vouchsafe to discharge thy sorowes into my bosom, wherin if my counsell cannot amend, yet shall not mine endeuours end, til I endeuour to end thy misfortune.

Hee grieues not *Siluagio* (said *Thirsis*) that can tell howe much hee grieueth, for heauie cares sit heauye on the soule, they be but light shadowes, which leape from the tongues vttererance: yet if it please thee to sit downe, and leane against this tree, I will bee content

to

to diſcloſe, what to theſe woodes, this banke, theſe buſhes, yond ſtreames, and theſe Birds I haue long ſince diſcloſed, onely to no Shepheard it is reuealed, and yet me thinkes, ſith I feele my death ſo neere, twere fitter to conceale my folly, and onely graue it in ſome tender barke, by which my bodie ſhall bee interred, that when the Goddeſſe ſhall paſſe by for whoſe take I conſumed, ſhe may tryumphing ſay, Loe heere lyes the victory of mine eyes, and my beauties conqueſt; But *Siluagio* impatient to bee delayed, beganne againe to importune him with ſuch vnreſiſtable perſwaſions, that thus in the end *Thirſis* began to deliuer his fortunes.

At ſuch time *Siluagio* as euery Budde began to make his tender leaſe appeare vppon the earth, and that euery wooddy Querriſter skipping from bough to bough, chaunted fayre welcomes to the Springes firſt comming, my ſelfe lying vnder the ſhadowe of a pretty buſh, tuning my Pype to the delicacye of their ſweete notes, made in my conceite ſo harmonious a conſort betwixt Arte and Nature, that the poore fooles in their contentment ſeemed to play and daunce about me. In the midſt of this ſportiue merryment, like a nimble Roe, came the fayre *Miliadora* tripping by; her hayre in moſt louely quantity, hanging about her ſhoulders, which the windes being in loue withal, moſt ſweetely kiſſing, not rudely ſtirring, ſeemed in their gentile motion to quiuer like the Aſpen leaues: as I perceiued ſhee came for counſaile to a holy Fountaine hard by, to tye them all vp againe in a well ordered proportion: which doone, ſhe caſt a vaile of ſiluer ouer the rich Mine of that golden treaſure, and bordering that vaile with a Corronet of all the flowers that euer Mother-nature could

boast of, for eyther smell or colour, shee seemed in mine eye much brauer, and more sumptuously adorned then eyther *Iunoes* Byrde, or the statue of *Venus:* O how me thought the Sunne did stoppe, ,stand still, admyre, and gazing, seemed euer desirous to gaze vppon her: the stately Trees bow'd their tall heades to honour her that gaue an honour both to the heauenly and earthly mansion; her beautye me thought was the spring time to our Fieldes, the comforte to our Flockes, and the onely foode to the soules of men liuing. But whilst in the gloriousnesse of this eternall glory, shee trac'd about the banke of the fountaine, viewing her face in the christall water; mee thought I sawe a blush like lightning breake from the skye of her countenance, and she smil'd to see how the beautye of her face staynd all the other beautyes with which she was adorned, whereby she appear'd to say thus within her selfe; Alas I sticke not these flowers about me to adorne my beauty, but to disgrace their owne glories, when euery creature shall beholde how exceedingly I exceede them; But see alas *Siluagio* whilst thus my labouring imagination presented these delightes to my desiring soule, the moste excellent Princesse tourning about her fayre quicke eye (O eyes to whome all eyes are homagers) spyde the bush to mooue wherein I was so safely coutched; whereat as mistrusting treason to her person, shee flung downe her flowers, and like the light windes which scorne to presse the grasse in their motion, fledde from my presence, beeing the lightest Nimph on foote that euer was behelde by eye or by imagination; And heere with a big-swelling sigh, he stayed from further speaking, till *Siluagio* a new reuiuing his

remem-

remembrance, deſired him to proceede and ſhowe what effectes ſprang from the cauſe of this enterviewe: This, this (quoth *Thirſis*) I inſtantlye felt a boyling Spring ariſe in my heart, which with a bubling murmure, making his paſſage through euery Veine and Artery of my bodye, like the ſhallowe ſtreame which breakes his way through the pibble ſtones, incited mee with a new deſire to follow her, but being with-held by Obedience, I was content to periſh with Loue. But (ſaid *Siluagio*) did you neuer ſee her ſince? yes, yes, (qd. *Thirſis*) in Damſon tyme when it pleaſed her amongſt the Nymphes and Shepheards to gather the earely fruite of the Sommers rypening, ſhe commaunded me to mounte vp into the Trees, and to ſhake the plumbes downe into her lappe: O how I did enuy the ſenceleſſe fruites happineſſe to ſee it falland ſporte vpon that boſome, where euen Gods and Angels might haue beene proude to haue repoſed; yet did this fauour ſo inrich my fortune, and my ſeruiceableneſſe drawe on the fauour of further ſeruice, that when it pleaſed this Princeſſe (or rather Goddeſſe) at anye time for her delight to goe angle in the leſſer brookes, onelye I was commaunded to prouide the baytes, I onely had the charge of her hooke, of her line and her angle; how oft I kiſt the Cane, becauſe her hand in touching had kiſt it, how oft I imbraſte the lyne that had beene wantonlye intangled about her, how oft in my deliuerye I ſtole the touch of her prettye fingers, Iudge Loue, Iudge Louers, iudge all that are beloued. O God yet me thinkes I ſee with what delight the ſilly fiſh would glaunce at *Meliderus* beauty through the glaſsie ſtreame, whilſt deceiu'd with her bayte

ſhee

she had strooke them all with her hooke, onely the last nibled so long about the line, that when the Princesse thought to pull her pray to the shoare, the murdering hooke it selfe was taken quite away: at which sight my passion quickning my blood, and my blood reuiuing the spirrit of my wordes: I could not forbeare to say, behold thou all conquering Empresse of mens hearts, the glorious blaze which this angling beautye layes to catch mens soules, shall euen in this manner bee gnawne and taken away by the Yron teeth of consuming tyme; and where shall then be the future power of killing? yet louely Maide tryumph ouer me, whome you haue already taken, euen mee that like this simple frye delight in my perishing, and if you doe (as your fayre eyes are witnesses) bemone the fish which hath swallowed downe your hooke, whose lingring torment is a signe of certaine death; then pittye me your slaue, the merryt of whose affection shall farre exce the compasion due to any vnreasonable creature. And what (saide *Siluagio*) did the Princesse answere to this pretty gloze? Sparkes of displeasure (sayde *Thirsis*) flew with such a disdaine from her eyes, that I was euen *Phaeton*-like thunder-strooke from the Charriot of mine ambition, whilst casting her louely countenance to the humble earth, and knocking her siluer chinne against her Iuorye bosome, with a silence that spake as much as could be vnderstood by Anger, threwe downe her angle, & departed from my presence, her departure telling mee that the ending of her sportes should bee the continuance of mine affliction;

Canst thou not (said *Siluagio*) by neglecting her, fashion thine eye to finde some other object? How shall I finde

finde other (anſwered hee) and in her haue loſt my ſelfe? By forgetting her remembrance (ſayde *Siluagio.*) Shee is my remembrance (anſwered *Thirſis*) and will not bee forgotte whilſt I retayne my memorye. Then ſue againe (ſayde *Siluagio*) thy teares may extorte ſome pittye; I dare not (cryde *Thirſis*) leaſt I offend her patience: Why tell mee (ſayde *Siluagio*) what if ſhee were within this Forreſt begyrt with Tygers, Lyons, or with Sauage Beaſtes? I durſt (quoth *Thirſis*) attempt her in ſuch a caſe, becauſe it were a reſcue for the pretious Iewell of her life; What (ſayde *Siluagio*) if thou ſawſt her taken by Theeues, by Satyrs, or by wilde Sauadges? Why (quoth *Thirſis*) I durſt charge an Armye to relieue her honour: What Rocke ſo ſteepe that for her ſake I would not climbe? What Flood ſo deepe that for her I would not ſounde? What flame would I not indure? What froſt would I not ſuffer? nay, what Hell would I not ranſacke with *Hercules*, ſo that the end of my labour might but bring my loue within the looke of entertainement? Beleeue mee (ſaid *Siluagio*) ſhee were Flynt it ſelfe, if ſhee heard thee, and did not yeelde thee the fauour of her countenance: but come, aryſe my *Thirſis*, and caſt off this ſorrow being no attrybute to Vertue, but rather the Tytle of malignitye, beeing euer an hurtfull fooliſh quality, full of baſe thoughts and cowardize. Ariſe I ſay, and as wee walke along, I will (if thou pleaſe) to kill thy paſsion, ſhow thee the errors of thy paſsion: or if otherwiſe thy taſte cannot indure ſuch bitterneſſe, I will to flatter thy Loue, ſpeake much in Loues commendations: well (ſayde *Thirſis*) ſince thy knowledge is ſo

well able to declalme of euerie facultie in our paſsions, I am content both to attende thee, and lend thee mine attention, ſo that in thy diſcourſe thou exceed not the limits of modeſtie, by ſpeaking againſt loue, (to whom I am a ſlaue,) nor againſt beautie (to whoſe perfections I am an eternall inthralled pryſoner.) And with that *Thirſis* ariſing from the ground, walked along with *Silvagio*, hoping ere long to finde ſome occaſion which might occaſion him to retyre to his former ſolitarineſſe: and in their walking, *Silvagio* began thus to diſcourſe vnto him.

Of all the excellent humors, wherewith the minde of man doth commerce, or find it ſelfe buſied (my *Thirſis*) there is none either more hot, more ſharpe, or more full of prayſe-worthie action, then this of loue: which howe euer more colder capacities ſhall intitle Ague-like vncertaine obſeruing fittes and times, without eyther modeſt ſtayednesſe, or conſtant perſeuerance, yet in the well ſetled iudgement of the vertuous, it is found a generall fame of an equall compoſure, conſtant, and firme, ſmooth and ſweete, not raiſing deſires beyond the Moone, nor purſuing *Tantalus* fruit, which flyeth vs in following, neither doth it when willes are vnited and married togither (as men ſuppoſe) mourne and conſume, as if ending in enioying, but enioyeth according to the excellencie of the deſire that holds it, retayning a ſpirituall reſidence in a minde made pure with long vſe and cuſtome, excelling all other affections and paſsions of the minde, like a moſt excellent picture that is bordered about with Antike Boſcage, or Crotesko works of ſlight eſtimation. This loue is not the moſt fruitleſſeſt and baſe of all Paſsions, as being

being begot by *Deſire* and *Sloath*, as working vppon weake hearts and frenzies, as onely accompanying mutinous paſsions, and diſcomfortable ielouſies; and in the ende aſpyreth to a minutes Delight, which is vſherd with much paine, and followed by an eternall future repentance: No, no, my *Thirſis*, true loue, and true louers doe mingle and confound themſelues ſo in each other, with a generall mixture, that they out-weare and looſe the port or gate of their firſt entrance, *Reaſon* being taken away, and a more excellent and more fatall power made Miſtreſſe of that neuer to be vntied vnion: theſe paſsions which they feigne to be his conſorts, are ſicknesſes of the minde, which enuying loues exquiſiteneſſe, ſeeke with their poyſons to confound his beauties, but in the ende, like cloudes betwixt the Sunne and our eie-ſights, doe but darken loue, that when loue breakes out, it may be more reſplendant.

As *Siluagio* was thus going on, and diſcourſing, prayſing loue with diſprayſes, *Thirſis* whoſe minde was buſyed about much higher thoughts, woulde ſuffer his eares to retayne nothing, ſaue onelye the ſounde of his ſpeeches, till in the ende liſting vppe their heades, they might eſpie the onely Paragon of this worldes knowledge the excellent *Melidora*, ſomewhat a farre off, comming in the ſelfe ſame path in which them-ſelues walked, in ſo much that except they retyred, they muſt perforce meete her eye to eye, and viſage to viſage. Shee was Nymph-like cloathed in ſundrie coloured ſilkes, which being placed one vppon another were of an equall diſtance, one ſhotter then another, the in-moſt being longeſt, as braving of his moſt inwarde and familiar acquaintance, yet all

of them ioyning their beautyes together, made round about her an artificiall Rayne-bowe, her hayre beeing wound vp in a lace of golde, was intermingled with manye Flowers; all which beauties as if they had beene too glorious for heauen, or to rich for earth, were shadowed and all ouer-cast with a large vaile of white Cypresse.

In this sorte shee was returning from the Temple of *Diana*, that day beeing the great Saboath dedicated to the Goddesse, whereby the auncient ordinances and edictes of that place, all the Nimphes are to make their personall appearance, and to offer solemne sacrifice, and other priuate ceremonyes to the Queene of Chastitye, beeing all vaylde from the iudyciall censure of the eye-sight, least the misprision of a blush, or the attaindure of a pale looke shoulde giue occasion to a wanton thought to misdeeme innocence,

In this Temple vppon this day, if there bee found therein or after knowledge bring to light that there might haue beene found therein anye man or creature of the Male kinde, it is present death without appeale or iustification. In this sorte like the glorious Sunne in his noone-tyde progresse, came she tracing along the vallyes, her pretty foote scarce pressing downe the flower that it troade vppon. But *Thirsis* eyes, which long before had taken a full draught of her beautie, being now lightning, strooke with the beames of her presence, wanting power to retire, his soule being retired from al power to cõmand his intendments; amazedly stood stil with fixte eyes, swolne heart, sad thoughts, stiffe ioyntes, and all the terrors that could accompanye Loue in his desperate

desperate estate; still *Silvagio* whose vnrefined spirit did more wonder then retaine the remembrance of what he wondered at, awakning *Thirsis* intranced soule, with earnest perswasions, desired him once more to incounter the Goddesse of his fortunes, alledging that stale hope which is euer most hopelesse; that she was a woman and there was no impossibilities. But *Thirsis* who hauing once seene *Disdaine*, carried euer after his remembrance in his bosome, like an affrighted child, that hides his head when the nurse talkes of a Bugge-beare, would faine haue gone aside from his sorrow, telling *Silvagio* it was but labour lost, sith both her greatnesse, vertue, and chast thoughts, were in this conflict his mortall enemies. But *Silvagio*, taking vpon him the power of *Reason* to ouerthrow *Passiõ*, with a friẽdly vpbraiding of *Thirsis* timerousnesse, by no meanes would be withstoode, but would force perforce, enforce him to meete the Princesse, saying: who dares not aduenture, can neuer attaine; neither he which will not hazard vpon peril, shall haue the honour of perils ouerthrow; therefore aduance thy faine thoughts (my *Thirsis*) and pleade their humble seruiceablenesse whilest I with-drawe my selfe into this groaue, and pray for thy succeeding fortunes. At this, *Silvagio* withdrawing himselfe apart, yet not so farre but that his eares might haue part of their conference, the noble Princesse keeping her direct course, and being come euen almost to the place where the loue-thralld Shepheard stoode, the poore Swaine most humbly falling vpon his knees, gaue her this salutation.

For euer may the grasse be greene (most sacred Nimph) which thou treadest vpon, with thy more daintie feet, and may an eternall Spring flourish in thy walks,

as thine immortall Beautie flourisheth in the hearts and eyes of all thy beholders.

To this salute, the Princesse in a prettie silent blush, giuing him a sleight thanks, offered to passe by him, as carried away with farre greater desseignes then the note of his fauours. But the forlorne Shepheard, who before fearing to offend, nowe hauing giuen offence, imagining Iniurie and it to haue both but one merite, staying the Nymph by her sacred garments, & binding his knees still Apprentices to the base earth, thus seconded his former speech, after many teares and sighes interruptions.

Thou onely Superlatiue of all thy sexe, euen for thy vertues sake flie not from thy seruants presence, but if it be possible that the desperate anguish of my loue, may raise any appearance of pittie in the all-sauing Firmament of thy sweete, chaste, and sober countenance, euen for the honour of thine owne deare name, vnto which all the hearts of Kinges are tributarie, sende forth some sparke to lighten my darke soule: O shunne me not I say, alas t'is for the harmelesse Lambe to shunne the deuouring Woolfe; you are too fearefull (Ladie) O you are farre too timerous, I am your seruant, your vassaile, and the worke of your owne eyes making; alas I come not to offer violēce, but to receiue outrage. Deare Goddesse, emptie thy Quiuer, spend thy Shafts vppon my soule, O sticke them vp to the feathers in my heart, for well I remember thou didd'st long since giue mee that incurable wound, which corsiue like eating my heart, hath confounded my soule; and Reason leauing nothing but thy pittie to call me from eternall bondage. O thou immortall mirror where beautie findes out her

best

beſt beauties, thou that art the kingly ſeat of triumphant loue, daine that thy faire eyes which make the morning bluſh, which parch heauen, ſcorch earth, fire the woods, breakes the froſt, flowers the earth, and turnes the darke night to the comfortable day, O let thoſe eyes which are ſo much the fayrer, by how much my torment is made greater by them to pittie the anguiſh I haue got by gazing on them.

Melidora with a bluſhing countenance, whoſe roſie colour gaue a ſigne of heauenly anger, eyeing the Shepheard with an appauling Maieſtie, demaunded of him if hee were not that *Thirſis*, who comming but lately into theſe walks, had made thoſe curious hookes and baites with which her-ſelfe and the other Nymphes had ſo oft taken ſo manie fiſh? He made her anſwere, it was hee: ſhee demaunded againe, if it were not he that had made the curious Nets, wherewith himſelfe and the Shepheards had taken ſo manie birdes? hee made her anſwere, it was hee; why then ſaid *Melidora*, Shepheard farewell, I will no longer ſtay with thee, leſt I bee likewiſe taken by thee; but hee ſtaying her againe, ſaid; Excellent Ladie, how can you be made captiue by your priſoner, or howe can your ſubiect alter anye of your determinations; alas (moſt excellent creature) you know my ſeruice hath attended you in the woods, in the Medowes, on the Mountains, at the ſprings, at the riuers by day, by night, I at euery ſilent time, and yet hath my thoughts bin pure without the ſtaine of villanie: I ſaide *Melidora*, but when yong deſires begin to ſting and bee inflamed, you giue me cauſe to fear the effects of frenzie. I hope (ſaid *Thirſis*) by that to purchaſe my glorie, when you beholding mine anguiſh, ſhall admire my patience;

O but you may forget your selfe (said *Melidora*) Ile neat forget (said *Thirsis*) to doe that which shal cõtent you; Ile neare attempt that which in my knowledge shal offend you. I take you at your worde (saide *Melidora*) henceforth I charge you that you forget to loue me; for there is nothing in the world can bring my minde better contentment; againe I charge you, that you tarrie no longer in my presence, for nothing in the worlde is more offensiue vnto me. Madam (saide *Thirsis*) both your commaunds are extreame; yet to the first I must needs make answere, I can neuer forget to loue you, because all my thoughtes doe (and must euer so doe) liue in you. Why (said *Melidora*) will you loue mee in despight of me? O no (said *Thirsis*) not in despight, though I cannot retyre; Well (said *Melidora*) if thy disposition be as full of curtesie, as thy words are of care, auoyde from mee, or let me goe from thee; I hope (said *Thirsis*) that *Time*, who is the worlds conquerour, will eyther conquer you, or consume me, I humbly take my leaue. And with that rising from the ground in such an heauie perplexitie, that sorrow was neuer to bee seene in a more sorrowfull taking, he departed from her; and went, not respecting where or whither, onely desirous to hide his heade in some dark Caue, where none but Miseric and he might liue togither.

Siluagio that sawe him thus depart like a condemned man; and was a witnesse of the heauie sentence that shee his cruel Iudge had pronounced, wondring that internall furie should be found in a heauenly bodie, and cursing nature that had placed a flintie heart in a silken Cabinet, followed his friend with infinite pensiueneſſe, as well to preuent the aduauntage *Dispaire*, might take of his

griefe, as to fortifie that wounded hope which now was euen at his last breathing. But *Melidora*, all-be the excellēcie of her owne disposition, could haue affoorded a more milder repulse, yet at this time her mind being caried away with such an earnest affection, as may well be comprehended within the title of loue, would not suffer her tongue to deliuer any other satisfaction. And this was the reason:

There is a gallant yong Shepheard, who some three yeares agone, hauing seated himselfe in *Tempe*, hath lyued there with much happinesse, more admiration, but most loue, his beautie inticing, his good disposition confirming, and his vertue binding vnto him, all those with whom at any time he conuersed: His rurall profession was beautified with a Cittie-gouernment; his homely attyre had a courtly fashion, and his plainest discourses were interlyned with wittie and morrall constructions: his words were queint, his behauiour ciuill, and his desires lofty, insomuch that he was called the courtly shepheard, or the noble Pastor, exceeding all his fellowe-Shepheards, excepting onely the most rare *Thirsis*, whom he could exceede in nothing but in the blisse of affection.

This worthie Swaine had long time before *Thirsis* came into these parts with his noble deseignes, which promised more then could be comprehended in a countrey fortune; had so won the heart of the excellent Princesse *Melidora*, that shee did not disdaine to call him her seruant, and with many graces did so adorne his blissfulnesse, that his lostie fortunes might well contend with any Monarchs greatnesse, in-so-much that loue, who had euer liued prisoner in her eyes, began to dart his

beames into the Shepheards heart, and with a wanton recoyling, to looke nowe and then downe into her bosome, making his dayly seruice the witnesse of his assured loue; and her Fauour an Herauld to pronounce that by possibilitie shee might loue. Nowe it happened that this day beeing the great Sabboth of *Diana*, the Princesse had promised her Shepheard *Diatassan* (for so was he named) after the Rites and Ceremonies were finished, to meete him in a most pleasant Arbor, seated in a delicate groaue, dedicated to the Goddesse *Chloris*, to which none but her selfe onely had priuate accesse, there to discourse vnto him the order, the pompe, and the manner of the Ceremonies, which were due to the greate Goddesse, and to that ende she was walkt foorth as before I haue rehearsed: and beeing nowe entred into the Arbor, finding her Shepheard not come, taking vp a Lute which lay ypon a bed of flowers hard by, to whose sweete sound coupling her more sweeter voyce, she sang this Sonnet.

I Doe not now complaine of my disgrace,
O cruell Loue, O loue too cruell croſt,
Nor of the howre, season, time, nor place,
Nor of my soyle for any freedome loſt,
Nor of my minde by my misfortune daunted:
Nor of my wit, with ouer-weening ſtrooke,
Nor of my ſenſe by any ſound inchaunted,
Nor for the force of fierie poynted looke:
Nor of the ſteele that ſtickes within my wound,
Nor of my thoughts by worſer thoughts diſplac'd,
Nor of the life I labour to confound,
But I complaine that being thus diſgrac'd,

Fierd,

Fierd, feard, fettred, ſhot through, ſlaine,
My death is ſuch as I dare not complaine.

She had ſcarce made an ende of her ſong, before the courtly Shepheard *Diataſſan* entred into the groaue, bluſhing to ſee his abſence condemned of all negligent errors by her preſence, humbly beſought her Maieſtie to pardon his ſlow-footed attendãce, alledging the care of his folde, the feare of ſuſpect, and many other prettie excuſes: but aboue all, he alledged the loſſe of a moſt dainty lambe, which he had moſt curiouſly brought vp, and wherewith *Melidora* was much delighted to play, ſaying that morning, the cruel wolfe had ſtolne it away, in-ſo-much that hee purſuing the chaſe, tooke the wolfe at his pray, and then had no remedie but to kill him that had killed her play-fellow. *Melidora* ſmiling, made him anſwer, that if ſhe had not ſome conſtant trials of his loyaltie, ſhe ſhould feare leſt ſome violent miſchance would eyther kill, or take him from her ſeruice; but hee whoſe feruent loue could indure no colde ſuſpition to propheſie his apoſtacie with more then an vſuall earneſtneſſe, beſought her not to make doubt of his faithfulnes, vowing by Heauen, by Earth, by Loue, by the golden treaſure of his hopes, by all his comforts paſt, & by all his delights to come, and laſtly by her ſacred ſelf, who was the great volume which contained the cronicle of his fortunes, that no time, no chance, no change, nor no admiration, ſhould take from his name the title of her eternall Admirer, wiſhing ruine to his bodie, infamie to his name, and immortall death to his ſoule, when his pure thoughts ſhoulde bee blotted with the ſtaine of diſloyaltie; and with that kiſsing her hande,

and shedding some teares thereon, desired her not to suspect him till she was inwardly resolued, absolutely to kill him; which she promising to perform, they sate downe togither vpon a flowrie banke within the Arbour, whilest *Diatassan* calling to remembrance her former promise, humbly besought her to tell him the manner of *Dianas* ceremonies, what was the pompe, the show, and the order of their sacrifice: to which shee thus answered. To tell thee (my Shepheard) at length without omission, all the stately proceedings due this day to our great Goddesse, neither could a Sommers day, nor Winters night, out-last my discoursings: wherefore we will omit it till a more cõuenient time for such an argumẽt; onely one accidẽt as worthie note as loue it selfe is worthy memorie, which fell out this day in the Temple, I will impart vnto thee, and thus it was.

Amongst all the Nymphs and Mayds, which this day made the Altars of the great *Diana* smoake with perfumed Sacrifice, I spyde a virgin, who bestirring herselfe like a busie toyling Bee, exceeded many of her cõsorts in praying, in sensing, in sacrificing, and in singing: by her gestures I could not suspect her knowledge, her garments I knew not, her face because of her vaile I saw not, and for her speech like the rest, it witnessed vnto me that she was a stranger. After her sacrifices were ascended, & she for her more diuinne contemplation, retyred into a priuate seate, my selfe closely stealing from the rest of the Maydens, came and deuoutly toyn'd me to her side, where I had not long seated my selfe, but I might perceiue she cast many pretty gazes vpon mee, such as by the interpretation of affection are said to carrie loue in their glaunces; at first I wondred, but at last

I encountred her looke for looke, making loue an excellent linguist onely by demonstration; and all-be the race was but short, yet was there a large field for loue to tylt in betwixt each of our gazings; my face being couered all ouer with this vaile, had onely two loop-holes left for mine eyes to looke through, From whence (sayd this Nymph) she saw such heauenly glimpses issue, as matcht the Sunne, which straitned betwixt two clouds, darts into the worlde faire louely beames of induring brightnesse; I tolde her, if in me there were any of those glories, they onely were borrowed from her, and from her beautie: with that she whispering in mine eare, demaunded my name? but I wringing her softly by the silken hande (and to make my selfe some prettie sport by this instant accident) tolde her that I was a Shepheard, not a Nymph, and that onely for her sake I had disguised my selfe, fearing not the daunger of my life, because I had none but by her sufferance, meaning in this Temple and at this holy time, to consecrate my chaste thoughts to her seruice. She againe demaunded of me my name, and I answered her it was *Diataſſaw*; And I pray you Ladie (said *Diataſſaw*) what answered shee to that name? Vpon the knowledge of that name (sayd *Melidora*) wee concluded, that this night when the Nymphs doe come to fetch water at *Mineruaes* spring, shee shall come the hindmost in the traine, and that I wayting for her in a mazie Thicke adioyning, shall as soone as I perceiue the Nymphes to returne home, discouer my selfe to her, who fayning odde tryfles to stay behind them, woulde administer vnto me al aduantage of further cõference.

Much other talk we had, but in the end when the rites were ended, she sighing departed; my smyles ready to

breake into open laughter; to see the poore foole so cunningly deceiued; But what was her name (said *Diataſſan*) shee is called (said *Melidora*) *Apheleia*: O what sport will this be for thee & me, whē in the cooling shade amongst the rest of thy fellowe Shepheards, we passe away the time with toyes, with Ridles, and with wittie purposes: I tell thee this action will bee worthy of a conceited eglogue. And as they were thus discoursing, a Page belōging vnto the Princesse, came into the Arbor & brought her worde that al the Forresters were attending her Maiestie at the Lodge, to knowe in what parte of the forrest she intended the next day to hunt, that orderly preparation might be made for her sportes? with that the Princesse arysing with such a gesture as did enuye the times swiftnes, she tolde her shepheard she must be gone, but he desiring leaue to attend her, shee earnestly forbad him, saying the tutret loue is the cottage hate, and so shee departed, onely accompained with her Page to her owne Castell.

As soone as the Princesse was gone, *Diataſſan* reuoluing in his minde vpon the aduenture she reported, grew into an amazed extasie, *Desire* & *Wonder* breeding in his soule a thousand Chymeras and strange imaginations; one while feare appald him, least dooing iniurye to the Princesse, he might kill his loue and Fauour: then presently *Desire* inflames him to beholde her whose loue liuing vpon his name is derided by fortune. Another while *Doubt* takes him prisoner, Reason denying the minde to haue such insubstantiall apprehensions; but then *Wonder*, resolues him, and bids him but looke into the worke of his owne mindes creation: thus beeing carryed awhile with these variable thoughts, in the end

hee

hee abſolutelye concludeth with himſelfe, that he will goe to *Mineruas* Spring, and in the groaue adioyning, ſhilter himſelfe to try what euent will iſſue of the former paſſage: And ſo in the end hee did, where hauing reſted till the Sunnes departure made the night proclayme her gouernment, hee might beholde ſixe beautifull Nimphes with Golden Flagons in their handes, who commning vnto *Mineruas* ſpring, before they would dippe their veſſels into the holy water, they in a moſte comely order walking about the Fountaine, ſang this Canzonet.

THoſe fooliſh women are accurſt,
That make of Loue a God (though blinde)
And vnder him the worſt of worſt,
Couer the follyes of the minde.

For vs we doe deteſt outright,
The vulgar maxime as vntrue:
That he ſhould be a God of might,
Who breedes the cares makes all ſoules rue.

That takes all reaſon from deſire,
And peece-meale teares the troubled heart,
Being a moſte conſuming fire,
That waſtes our inward heauenly part.

But worſe accurſt are they by much,
That on mens beauties fixe their eye,
And thinke no heauenly comfort ſuch,
As that which in faire lookes doth lye.

Alas they doe too much forget
That loue and men are of one minde,
Buſie to lay that cruell net,
Which thralles the ſimple fooliſh blinde:
Returning them moſt loſſe at all,
That loues the beſt, and is moſt thrall.

After they had ſung this ſong, euery one dipping her golden Flagon in the Fountaine, after ſome little intercourſe of ſpeech, wherein one gaue prayſes to the Goddeſſe *Minerua*, another commended the vertues of the water, and others the ordinances of thoſe Ceremonies: In the ſelfe-ſame comely order as they came, they nowe began to returne. But *Diataſſan*, who during all the time of their abode, had with a curious eye beheld the hindmoſt Nymph of the traine, began to reade within the faire ſtorie of her beauties, many remembrances of thoſe ancient thoughts, which had long agoe (in the Maydentime of his firſt loue) infinitely ſurpriſed him. Manye tymes, his eyes tolde him they ſawe nothing but that ſight which they had moſt dearely loued. His thoughts tolde him they were inriched with no new cogitations, and his heart affirmed, that but that Image there was none in it perfectly engrauen; to be plaine, ſhee ſo much reſembled a worthy Nymph, whom in his firſt youth he had loued moſt ſincerely, till iniurious Death had made a diuorce betwixt their affections, that euen now his reuolting eyes began coward-like to yeeld to the aſſault of her beautie: and not content to yeeld alone, did ſo perſwade his heart, that hee couetous of new honour, ſubiected all that was in him to her obedience; *Meliadora* was now in his minde but like that picture which *Zuxis*

deſired

deſired to ſee vnder the painted ſheete, which was mearly nothing, as hauing no place or being all that he was, was but onely a ſcrole of this new affection: And now beholding *Apheleia*, both with ſlowe pace, and ſome ſleight excuſe loiter behind the reſt of her felow nimphs, he diſcouered him-ſelfe, and with a gentle pace ouertaking her, after his downe-caſt lookes, and ſome trembling wordes, had like a preface tolde her, his talke muſt be all of loue; taking vp her hande, and giuing it a louely kiſſe, he demaunded of her if that hande were not the hand which did prodigally caſt into his fruitfull breaſt the faire ſeed of blooming fancie, whoſe ripe harueſt ſhal returne her millions of gaines; or tell me faire Nymph (ſaid he) are not theſe glorious eies of yours, the war-like Cytadels where all conquering loue ſits as in his Empire cloathed with the rich ſpoyles of many kingly ouerthrowes, and for a tryumph hangs out his moſt beautious colours? O God they are; & therefore let neuer any Shepheard feare *Ioues* thunder-bolts, or in their Carols aduance the vnconquered ſword of the God of warre, but let them all bee amazed with thy beautie, and with that amazement let them record the victories thou haſt obtained of the worlde, of loue, and of me thy ſeruant. Wel I remember that in the April of my yeares, I haue been ſomtimes inticed amongſt my fellow Shepheards, to taſte the delights of youths inuentions, and in thoſe delights haue delighted to approue the mindes of many Maidens, yet neuer till now haue fixt my conſtant mind of any; till I ſaw thee I ſaw not any that coulde content me, for whoſe ſake I haue this day deſperately aduentured my life by comming diſguiſed into *Dianas* temple, wherefore (deare Nymph) let the former words which

I whiſpered in thy daintie eares, the mutuall agreement of our hither comming, and the due attendance I haue performed in my ſeruice, as the meſſengers of pity plead for my merit; and euē as with patience I ſuffer the bitter anguiſh of my thoughts, ſo let loue and thy ſelfe bee curteous to my ſad deſtiny. To this ſhe ānſwered; Faire Shepheard, according to mine agreemēt, here I make good my promiſe, yet not in ſuch ſorte that by it thou ſhalt ſuppoſe I ſtande intangled in thoſe fooliſh ſnares which you *Theſſalians* call loue: but for it pleaſed thee (without eyther *Deſire* in me, or *Deſert* in my perfections) to make ſo franke and abſolute a gift, of thy hart, of thy ſoule, and of thy ſelfe, to reſt euer at my diſpoſing, ſo that it ſhould be vtterly vnlawfull for any but me to giue, to retaine, to keep, to change, or to diſpoſe any thing within the compaſſe of thine affection, and that al thy thoughts and actions ſhould maiden-like giue a modeſt and ſincere attendance vpon my will, which ſith I ſee thou doſt effectually performe by this newe ſeconds of thy former loue, be thou pleaſed with mine acknowledgment, that I haue heard thy loue: O but (ſaid he) ſhall the tender of theſe my ſeruices receyue at thy hands no recompence? t'is recompence inough (ſaid ſhe) that I giue credit to thy words, & acceptāce to thy ſeruice. Why then (ſayd he) let this bondage of my loue bee like thoſe calme blaſtes which kindle the fire of delight, whoſe flame breaking forth into the world, may make vs admyred of all conſtant beholders. As ſhe was about to replie vnto this ſpeech, ſhe might perceiue the reſt of the Nymphes looking backe, and ſtaying for her companie, which occaſioning her with a ſhametaſt bluſhing to breake off her conference, ſhe told him, their many wordes might

moue many ſuſpitions, which to auoid it was fit that ſilence ſhould part them, yet (ſaid ſhe) Faire Shepheard, take this little remembrance, and weare it for my ſake, and with that ſhe gaue him a very faire Iewell, wherein was ſet a moſt rich Diamond, cut in the faſhion of a Spheare or Globe, and about it was writ this word, *Manens moueor*, and ſo ſhe departed.

But aſſoone as his eyes had loſt her which was their beſt obiect, they inſtantly conuerted their lookings to her coſtlye fauor, on which when hee had with many curious ſurueys a good ſpace meditated, & had to many croſſe and cõtrary ſenſes, wreſted and expounded the cunning deuiſe; at length conſtantly beholding the frame of the faire Globe, and marking with what courſe the reflections, and ſparkles like little ſpheares wound about the foil, which like the earth (the worlds cẽter) ſtood in the midſt of the *Mund*, he could not forbeare to ſay; Deare Maid, be thou the Sky, & let me be the earth, on whom gentle loue may make the morning lightes of grace to ariſe, and giue faire glory to my darknes: and although this ſullen night make thee withdraw frõ mine eyes, the beames of thy countenance, O yet let thy fauor continually runne about me, and how ſoeuer I mooue, let thy loue neuer be remooued from mee: many other paſſionate ſpeeches to like effect he vttered, with ſuch a feeling earneſtneſſe, that many times hee was readie to faint vnder the wearie burthen of his newe loue; but the day hauing giuen vp all his auctoritie to the nightes commaundement, and *Hope* a little eaſing the thraldome of his ſenſes, ſeeing new occaſions, muſt giue new meanes to ſatisfie his longings, pleaſed with thoſe ſleight contentments for that time,

he departed homeward towards his Cottage, where taking no rest but such as attendes the vnrest of troubled Louers, being onelye accompained with hopes, with longings, with dispayres, with Ielousies, with vngrounded desires, and passionate lamentations; he wasted the weary time of that too long imagined night. But as soone as the Sun began to strew Roses and Gillyflowers vpon the toppe of the Easterne Mountaines, al the Forresters and Shepheards in a moste seemely manner, assembled at the lodge where the fayre *Melidora* lay, (*Thirsis* onely excepted) whose cares denyde him the comfort of al recreation; And there the Forresters taking their siluer-bound Bugles which hung in rich bautriks ouerthwart their greene liueryes, they winded a shrill rechate vnto the Princesse, as signall of the dayes ready preparation; but she whose vntroubled minde was euer prepared to giue entertainment to those worthy sports, issued fourth of her lodge with all the Ladies and Nimphes of *Tempe* in her traine, so royally adornd, that euē the Goddesse of hunting grew paale for anger to see how much her selfe was excelled. After she had giuen a chereful salutation to al her beholders, & with a quicke surueying eye beholding the companye, and onely missing the Shepheard *Diatissan*, blushing for feare shee should bee seene to blush, she commaunded them that if all thinges were in a readynes, they should proceed to the pastimes; with that the Forresters going before with their Iauelines and darts, and the Shepheards with their hookes guarding each-side of her persō, they passed on towards the Woodes, where soone after the Hewee was set, the toyles pytcht, and the Houndes vncoopled; imediately there was rouzed a fayre and goodly Stagge, whose

tel-tale

tel-tale feete that were onely betrayers of his life, were now made the meanes, and inſtruments of his beſt ſafety: he was no ſooner rouſd, and notice thereof giuen by the ſweet redoubling mouthes of the houndes, but immediately the Shepheards with their ſhouts, the Forreſters with their hornes, and the many-tong'd *Ecchoes* in euery corner, made ſuch a delightfull muſicke through the hollownes of the elder grown woodes, that like the *Phirgian* conſort which ſtirred vp ſuch valient ſpirit in *Alexander*, it eleuated vp to heauen the mindes of the hearers: the beaſt fled, the hounds purſued, & the Nimphes, Forreſters & Shepheards, with ſeuerall encoragements followed ſo ſwiftly, that he which from the top of ſome hye Turret might but haue beheld the chaſing & rechaſing, would well haue concluded in that ſporte, the full glory of all other paſtimes, But during this ſporte in which the Nimphes & Shepheards ſtraue by the ſwiftnes of their nimble feete, who ſhould keepe neareſt to the deſired game, it hapned that *Melidora* (who in al things ſo far excelling, as aboue al creatures ſhe was moſt excellent) did ſo far outſtrip all her attendants whatſoeuer, that not any was able to keep within the view of her ſwiftnes; onelye one faire Nimph whoſe name was *Ethera* ſprung of the race of *Atalanta*, being onely a ſecond to the Princeſſe in running, with much labour & more deſire kept ſtill the ſight of her preſence, but as it is euer ſeene that the violence of pleaſure tranſports our mindes and actions beyond the moderation of delight, the deſire wee haue to inioy, taking from vs the abilitie to make vs inioy, ſo in this abſolutely worthy Princeſſe, her too much earneſtnes to purſue her ſportes (being areſted by wearynes) made her now begin to diſtaſt ſporte, and not ſhee a-

lone was wearie, but euen the poore hunted beast, first by many counter-courses, and oft tappishing, and lastly by taking soile in a great lake not farre of, shewed how neare he was come to the last point of his vtter ruine; yet the water not speaking so plaine language as the earth, was a meanes whereby the hounds came to an vtter default, which she perceiuing, & therewithall calling into her remẽbrãce, how by her following she was fled from all companie, hauing not any neare her, either within view or hearing, saue only the nymph *Ethera*, and beholding the place to be both vast & disconsolate, although she would willingly haue returned into better safetie, yet was her wearinesse so great, that shee was inforst to sit downe vnder the shadow of a faire Mirtle to repose herselfe for a little season: and during the time that shee was there sitting, she intreated the nymph *Ethera*, either to sing vnto her some pretty pastorals, of Shepheards loues (which well shee knew she could performe) or discourse vnto her some pleasant history, which beguiling Fancie might shorten the time, & make their abode lesse tedious. *Ethera* as willing to obey as she was worthy to cõmand, tolde her she had a discourse, which would she vouchsafe to couer within the heauẽly tabernacles of her eares, she should find if not delight, yet infinite wonder; But (said she) if any thing in it should stirre offence, I had rather ten thousand times it should perish in my bosome; But *Melidora* as insuspitious, as she was innocent, desired her to proceed in her discourse, assuring her nothing should be taken in euill part; which was either fit for her bashfull nature to deliuer, or for her chast eare to entertaine. This free charter giuen to the faire *Ethera*, she began in this maner to speake vnto her.

Of

Of all the externall glories (Madam) wherewith we cloath the outward perfection of all excellent thinges; there is none of ſo ſoueraigne authoritie or controlleſſe ſuperintendencie, as that which we call beautie, becauſe there is nothing wherewith the taſte of the eye is at any time delighted, to which wee can giue a greater Epithiton, then to ſay it is moſt beautifull. And ſo (Madam) of the minde in like faſhion, whoſe excellent knowledges, & diuine meditatiõs are but onely the inward ſoules beauties; adding to the perfite creature but this laſt of praiſe, that there is a beautiful minde in a beautiful body; yet this beautie if it ſtirre not in the moſt Iudicial beholders the height of admiration is ſaid to be no beauty, for they be vulgar thinges with which we cõmunicate: they be heauenly or ſupernatural, which we admyre; neither doth beautie by the height of admiration gaine the top of her aduancement: there is a certaine inflamed *Deſire*, which muſt crowne and royallize this Admyre with an incomprehenſible loue, or otherwiſe there is neither Beautie, neither any Admiration. So that for vs women, if the greateſt benefite wee can begge of Nature bee Beautie, if Beauties be Admire, if Admires be loue, and loue be the worthie end to which we onely were created; why doe we ſo rebelliouſly ſpurne at our happineſſe, and like to ambitious vſurpers, kicke the Diadem with our feet, whoſe glorie being ingrauen in our hearts, woulde make vs ſwim bloody ſeas to attaine the poſſeſſion. This ſpeake I to you (the crowne and glory of all Maidens) to whom Nature hath been ſo prodigall of beautie that I feare for your ſake ſhe will proue penurious to all after ages, in-ſo-much that ſlouenly Art taking vppon him Natures prerogatiue, will like a lauiſh tell-tale diſcouer

the defects of womens desires, and beauties: O this I say againe, I speake vnto you, who being most beautiful are most admired, and most of all creatures in the world enthroned, and crowned with an immoueable, and constant affection. O Madam, did you but feele the least of those bitter paines, which the most induring and forlorn Shepheard *Thirsis*, for your sake onely endureth, or did you but know the violence of those immortall flames, which darted from your eyes, like lightning kill ere they be perceyued; I know it were impossible for your tender heart not to relent at his passions; let mee beseech you then (most diuine creature) if you be but as sencible of paines, as you are beautifull to occasion torments; if in that excellent and sacred frame of your bodie, there was euer felt the touch of all sauing pity, to cast one relenting looke vppon the vtter dispairing estate of thy most lamentable Shepheard, whereby thy mercie shall be made most mightie, thy sports and pleasures anew reuiued, & thy delightful *Tempe* which droops (through his melancholy) spring a fresh, & bring forth sweete Poesies, worthy onely of the Muses.

Ethera had scarcely made an end of these words, when *Melidora* starting vpon her feete, as if she had beheld eyther the dreadfulnesse of some monster, or felt the bitter sauour of Rue, or Wormwood, *Disdaine* and *Anger* spreading colours of defiance in the fayre Roses of her lilly cheekes, sowring her countenance with a most louely sadnesse, she tolde the Nymph *Ethera*, that shee had attainted her eares with most blasphemous speeches, the sound whereof, sith she could not take from her memorie, yet would she henceforth for euer banish herselfe the companie of so vnchaste a reporter. What (said

she)

sho) hath *Thirsis* seene thee to be immodest, or hast thou seene in mine outward gestures that appearance of folly, which might incourage thee to these monstrous perswasions? *Diana* forbid. O heauens let me not liue when my life shall presage I will fall from vertue: and as for *Thirsis*, where before I did but onely hate his loue, now I hate him, thy selfe, and both your memories: and with that offering to depart away, before *Ethera* could either make excuse for him, or Apologie for herselfe, there suddenly rusht out of the woods a monstrous man, or a man most hideous then any monster; his name was *Demagoras*, a man whose stature did so farre exceede the greatest proportion of men then liuing, that more then doubling their features, hee was held for an inuincible Giant: his strength was greater then his limbs, and his minde fortified by his strength, made him so infinitely bolde, that he durst to aduenture any danger how desperate soeuer; his pride had no bound, yet would his crueltie haue boasted of more larger limits. What shall I say, such a one hee was, as (to say truth) was vtterlye all euill. This *Demagoras* hath liued about the walks and borders of *Tempe* more then this three yeares, making his reuenues by the spoyle, robberie, and pillage, of the poore Shepheards, and lurking in sundrie vaste Caues, which for that purpose he holdeth, doth howerly and dayly annoy, and waste, not onely *Tempe*, but al *Thessalia*, all-be the countrey hath at diuerse times set out whole armyes to hunt him, but all in vaine, so great hath beene his craft and pollicie.

This *Demagoras* whose very presence was able to haue appaal'd the stoutest resolution, had now stricken such deadly feare into the minde of the noble Princesse, that

like an innocent Doue, ouer whom the towring Falcon threatneth more then an ordinarie destruction, shee stoode so pittifully amazed, that feare hauing taken from her minde the remembrance of all aduauntage, or lasent, she had no power to stirre: whilest the rude slaue, like a greedie Cormorant seazed vppon her lillie hande, whose verie touch might well haue tolde him howe much too precious it was for so vilde and so inciuill an imbracement. After hee had caught her thus within the compasse of his power, shaking his grizely vncurled lockes, which seemed neuer to haue beene acquainted with any manner of comelinesse, hee tryumphed of his conquest, as much as if he had giuen an ouerthrow to the whole worlde: and indeed the world could be no more lamentably deformed, then to haue thus the onely Iewel therof, (the admirable *Melidora*) in so wofull an estate of suddaine destruction: for after the inhumane wretch had Lion-like ceaz'd her within his pawes, all-be his onely desire to doe ill was attractiue inough to draw him to the vttermost of illnesse; yet beholding the excellencie of her heauenly countenance, whose chast beames were to the vertuous: schooles to instruct modestie, and correct viciousnesse: now to him were firebrands of lust, and vnnaturall motiues to most bloody tyranny, which only out of their own excellencies, could but worke this alteration, that hee whose *Fury* was euer his orator, and *Will* his law; was now at first content to intreate, what of all things was most impossible to be granted, I meane the diuine treasure of her loue, and the fruition thereof, which the sauage monster told her had taken such fast roote in his degenerate soule, that it was not possible for him to liue and indure either delay or deniall. To which

the

the Princesse made him answer, that how euer the eye is said to entertain affections in moments; yet for her own part, her eye was so true a tenant to her hart, that it durst not giue harbour to any obiect, which of her heart was not first esteemed most worthy; wherefore she humblie besought him, that for that time she might returne in safetie, and if hereafter her eye would satisfie her heart, it was likely she would not conceale her longings: the villaine with this answere grew so inraged, that rudely shaking her by the tender arme, like a Northerne blast tearing a slender *Tamoriske*, he said: Disdainfull Maide, thou that art the horror of *Tempe*, and the wonder of so many amorous Shepheards, thinkst thou that either my loue shall indure controll, or my desire to be excellently impious, loose me this oportunitie to bee notably infamous? it cannot damzel, it cannot, I haue vow'd the spoile of thy good name, & the destruction of thine honor, frō which neither *Ioues* thunder, nor *Apollos* darts that slue the Serpent *Python*, is able to bring thee anie ransome: and the more willing I am to be thy persecuter, by how much I shall gaine that celestiall Iewell, which through the world is blazed of the greatest valuation. And here the Monster began to folde his armes about her Iuorie bodie, from which she nimbly deliuering herselfe, fell downe vppon her knees like a deuoute Saint, praying to a damnable Idoll, and humblie besought him to take away her life, rather then to attaint her honour; in which mercifull proceeding he should bind her spotlesse soule to do him seruice in a better kingdome; O excellēt man (said she) let me not suruiue my happinesse; make me not wretched by a weary life; but sith the vttermost of reuenge is but death, let my death at thy hands make

for all my disdaines, a deserued (though bloody) satisfaction.

These wordes which might haue mooued in anye marble brest, some commiseration, like oyle into fire did make more madde the flame of his raging, so that he solemnly once more sware the performance of his detestable desire; at which sentence she shryking out, and with weake force arming an inuincible heart, began to strugle and contend for the sauing of that pretiousnesse, which lost, is too pretious euer to be recouered: to her strugling she added such lamentable out-cries, such piercing sorrowes, and such deafening clamors, that euen Heauen & earth were grieued with her infinite tormentings, and as they are commonly seene in such cases, they did adde vnto her vigor (though not such force as to free her from captiuity) yet so much blessed fortitude that she yet preseru'd both her honour, and all the lust sights or imaginations belonging to her sacred bodye, free from the sullying of so barbarous a Traytor.

Whilst the Princesse and the Monster were in this deadlie strife thus impatiently contending, poore *Esthera* whose fearefull soule boaded her no better fortune, like one distraught or lunaticke, taking this aduantage, ranne into the Woodes, & with infinite clamors cryed for helpe to the Gods, to men, to beastes, to any thing, to all thinges: crying with such loude pitteousnesse, that euery Eccho there abouts in pittie of her ruth did double and redouble her noyse and lamentations, insomuch that *Thirsis* w, ho that day more to auoid company, then to companion any delight, being walkt fourth into this vast solitarie place, as fittest receptakle for disdayned sorrowes, hapned to crosse *Esthera*; and demaunding what might

might occaſion in her this hyddeous ſkritching: ſhee euen diſtraught with wofulneſſe could anſwere him nothing, but helpe; helpe, rape, murder, force, *Melidora*, *Melidora*: ſhe had no ſooner named *Melidora*, and with ſuch precedent wordes as did ſignifie eyther her death, or daunger, his haire beganne to ſtart vp, his heart ſwelled, his eies ſent forth fire, & his tongue cryed out; deare Nimphe, where, when, how, which way, what place, what ſlaue? O ſatisfie my longing, but ſhe running from him, and he purſuing her to bee better inſtructed, ſhee at laſt brought him where hee beheld as much, and more thē ſhe had tolde, or he imagined; for euē now the Princeſſe being fore-wearyed with ſtriuing, and fore-done with the tyrranous rage of her enemye, not being able longer to reſiſt, ſhe fel into a ſwound, but the villaine hauing tyed her by the golden hayres of her head faſt to a Cypreſſe tree, held her from falling to the earth, ſo that ſhee hung like an vnmatchable picture, wherein ſorrow and diſpayre was moſte liuely preſented; and had not the loue-thrald Shepheard come in that auſpitious howre, the Villaine might haue atttayned the worſt of his fouleſt wiſhes; But it was not an amazement, it was not a furye, neither was it a madneſſe which then tooke houlde vppon *Thirſis*, but euen a celeſtial valour, in which all the gliſtering Tapers of honour might bee diſcerned, which bearing him vpō the immortal winges of *Reſolution*, made him with ſo glorious a courage, aſſault the inhumane *Demagoras*, that hauing onely but his ſheep-hooke which hee towered aboue his head, hee threatned more then all the Launces which guard the Pallaces of Princes. Now whē *Demagoras* ſaw the Shepheard comming to aſſaile him, he left the Princeſſe &

taking vp a massy club of Steele, which euer he boare about with him, he met the shepheard, thinking with one blow both to punish his pride for daring; and to finish the combat which he scorned to account a contention. But the Shepheard as nimble in his deliuer action, as he was valient and powerful in destributing blowes, at the first encounter with a slip auoided the downefall of *Demagoras* stroake; & in the same instant making good againe his former ground, gaue *Demagoras* such a blowe vpon the shoulder, that it made his arme sloathful in aduauncing his club to reuenge the paine he suffered; But wrath & disdaine, or a disdainfull wrath, that hee should meete with an incounterour, madding his soule, caused him strike at the Shepheard with such furye, that had it light vpon, eyther his head or body, it had vtterlye confounded all the rest of his members, but as the former, so he did, auoide the second, retourning backe such heauy interest, that *Demagoras* was sometimes ready to sincke vnder the burthen. Thus betwixt them began a fearefull and dreadfull combatte, the noise of their fierce blowes awaking the Princesse from her swound, whose eies being opened to see the amorus shepheard thus ingadged for her sake, begā to ouerflow their bankes with new teares, not teares of griefe for her bondage, but that her deliuery shold be more yrksome then the basest seruitude. The valiēt shepheards rare valor, his Prince-like cariage, & his infinite daunger, wrought but this in her minde, that so her honour might bee vnstained, she rather wisht death then this likely deliuerance, as hating that life, which to him she could not affect, must of necessity be ingadged. Whilst thus with these thoughtes she was variously carried, wishing health to the Shepheard,

whose

whoſe health ſhe onely confounded; the fight more and more augmented, & *Thirſis* had with his hooke drawne much blood from *Demagoras*, which to reuenge, *Demogaras* bringing all his forces into his armes, hee ſtroke at *Thirſis* ſuch a counterblowe, that a little glauncing vpon his head, put him into a little ſtamering amaze: which perceiued by *Demagoras* and much doubting by former proofe the requitall of ſuch payment; taking aduantage of that ſtroake, turned his backe and ran with all his power into the thickeſt woodes where curſing and banning both the heauens and his fortunes, he hid himſelfe from the view of all creatures. After *Thirſis* had in his purſuite both loſt the ſight of his enemye, and the hope of his reuenge, he returned back to the Princeſſe, whom when he found in that manner bound like an innocent ſacrifice vpon a prophane Altar, he threw himſelfe vpon his knees before her & ſaid. Goddeſſe of my life, pardon I beſeech thee, my preſumption in that mine vnworthy hands dare be ſo bould as to touch the ſeemly treſſes of thy goulden hayre: alas it is thine own danger, and the cruell knots knit by the moſte hatefull ſt hand that euer prophan'd holy relique, which compelling me to looſe them, muſt excuſe mine arogance, And with that vntying her faire hayre, and ſetting her at new libertie, with a greedy eye, that was neuer ſatisfyed with looking, he gazed ſo earneſtly vpō her, that in the end imagining her eye did chide his eye, for his ouer curyous wōder, turning his face away, he thus ſaid vnto himſelf.

O Gods whilſt *Diſdaine* & *Rigor* drew blacke cloudes of diſpayre betwixt the Princeſſe and mine affection, how mee thinkes the Sunne hath diſſolu'd them and made my Starre ſhine fayre vppon my miſſerye: alas

alas it may bee it is done but to this ende, that when I shall draw neare vnto the heauenly fire of her beautie, I may there consuming ende my dayes with felicitie; how euer euen as the bird that is intangled in the snare of the fouler, doth at the last gaspe take delight to heare that sound which brought her to imprisonment, so doe her lookes (which brought this bitter anguish to my heart) not onely refresh my senses in their dispairefull extremities, but comforteth my soule when she is readie to take her flight from my dying bodie. And whilst he was thus talking in himselfe, the Princesse (O that so faire should haue so foule a fault founde in them) without thankes, without acknowledgement, or without leaue-taking, departed from his presence, not so much fearing the daunger shee had so lately escaped, as desirous to auoid his presence, whom sith shee could not affect, she could not acknowledge any bonde wherein she stood indebted; which when the wofull Shepheard by his turning about perceiued, although he inquired of the Nymph *Ethera* (who then was as gratefull as the Princesse was cruell) whither the Goddesse of his fortunes was departed, hee coulde not chuse but let the verie thought of her vnkindnesse strike him to the soule, with such intollerable agonies, that alt'hough his sighes, his sobs, his teares, his broken heart, and his groaning spirit, were testimonies sufficient of her too much ingratitude, yet euen striuing with life, he made his tongue deliuer these dolours.

And is she gone said he? is there no curtesie, no speech, no fauour, no thankes? O you immortall Gods, and thou great Nature that of nothing haue made this vniuersall habitation, how negligent haue you beene in the

framing

framing of her moſt delicate compoſure, placing in her all the diuine graces that can outwardly imbelliſh and adorne the moſt excellenteſt ſubſtance that euer was created: and leauing the ſacred intellectuall parts of her vnderſtanding ſoule (where *Pittie*, that is onely proper to her ſexe ſhould holde his continuall reſidence) vtterly neglected, abandoned, and forſaken; but alas, alas, it is not your omiſsion but my miſerie; not her want of pittie, but my pouertie: in deſert I am vnfortunate, alas I am moſt miſerable, which ſith mine ouerburdned heart can no longer vndergoe to eaſe it, and pleaſe her, thus finiſh my dayes. And euen as he was thus ſpeaking, hee ranne his head with all the ſtrength and power of his bodie ſo furiouſly againſt that tree, from which *Melidora* was but euen a little before looſed; that all be the hande of ſome ſupernall power (who no doubt in that hower reſerued him for farre greater happineſſe) did compell the blowe not to take that wiſhed effect the woefull Shepheard deſired, which was vtterly to haue finiſhed loue and life in a moment, yet had it ſo great efficacie, that it ſtrake him backewarde ſtone deade to all imaginations.

Esthera beholding this bloodie tragidie, being as full of pittie as the Shepheard was of diſpaire, ſhe ran vnto him, and laying his heade vpon her lappe, after ſhee had wiped his wound, and couered it with part of her ſilken garments, with long chafing and rubbing him, ſhee at laſt brought him againe to life; which was no ſooner reuiued, but accompanied with his ſeruant Memolie, the Shepheard lifting vp his heauie eyes, and looking vpon the buſie Nymph, he ſaid: Alas *Esthera*, haue I not paine inough, but that thou alſo wilt giue newe life

to my passions; thou art vnkinde, alas thou art vnkinde; and here plucking out his knife, he offred a second assault vpon his breast, which the Nimph withstanding, she thus with a friendly chyding beganne to admonish him: Fie *Thirsis* fie (said shee) thou shalt not thus vnnaturally robbe vs of delight, and thy selfe of honour; for shame let not one tempest make thee dispaire of the Sommers beautie: what foolish sayler will for one storm strike sayle, and trust no more to Sea-fortune? why man if euerie blast should bring thy sheepe to the folde, how shouldst thou profite, or they prosper? But thou hast indured no tempest, no storme, no blast; it is onely calme silence which hath euer beene construed, a consent or acknowledgemēt, which by thy mis-interpretation, brings thee to this malignitie: I imagine her bashfull Nature, which without blushing could not deliuer thee the desert of thy merite, by her dumbe departure, hath left thee to suppose shee thought as much or more then thine owne will would haue desyred; and as shee was thus expostulating with the wounded Shepheard, a graue Swaine well stricken in yeares (whose name was *Opicus*) hauing amongst the rest of the Forresters and Shepheards, met with the Princesse, and heard of her aduenture past; leauing his fellowes to attende her to her Lodge, hee came to the place where *Thirsis* lay, whom for the excellent vertues hee had euer beheld in him, hee loued moste intyrely, whome assoone as *Ethra* beheld, she called him vnto her, and shewing him the pittifulnesse of his estate, and the cause why his estate was so pittifull, shee besought him to ioyne with her, either in counsell or comfort, sith she was perswaded that if his dispaire continued, his life could not be of indurance;

durance; *Opicus* as full of wiſedome as then *Thirſis* was of diſcomfort, after he had ſhewed him the vglineſſe of his ſinne, and the vnnaturalneſſe of a ſelfe-combate, proouing all puſylanimitie, ſtupiditie, and blockiſhneſſe in ſuch a monſtrous conflict, in as much as the minde forgoeth thereby *Hope*, which is the golden treaſure of our vnderſtanding, firme *Truſt*, which is the aſſured rocke of all mortall ſafetie, and diuine *Loue*, which bindeth together all our ioyes, all our deſires, and all our proſperities: Now for this other loue (ſaid *Opycus*) which hath little or no communitie with this heauenly loue, I mean this loue of beautie, O Gods that euer men ſhould bee ſo lottiſh as to ſeeke it through their ſoules perditions! But I will not diſtaſt thee *Thirſis* by chyding thy follyes, but rather confirme thee to attaine wiſedome; I tell thee, in this eye-loue there is no impoſsibilitie, but the continuance of our affections, nor no maine aſſurance worthie any certaine deſpayre, but our owne furies; for howe euer the tyde runne, it falleth as it floweth: and this deluge of thy ſorrowe, *Time* can make to bee a worker of thy beſt comfort, I tell thee, *Time* brings to paſſe mightie things of infinite importance, euen thoſe vnconquered Beauties, which makes a conqueſt of all the worlds beſt hearts, forcing ſenſe to wonder, and ſoules to Idolatrize, ſhall in the end ſtrike the gallant top-layles of their glories, to the great Maieſtie of vncontrolled *Time*, euen that impetious *Time* who captiues moe ſubiects with his ſwift wings, then *Cupid* with his ſharpe arrowes; euen hee that winnes vs vnto him, when he ſhewes vs his backe, and flyes from vs. Loe, euen whileſt I am in talking, I feele the power of his great authoritie, whereby he abates the ouerflow of

swelling youth, dulles the keene edge of euerye sharpe piercing eye, make hoarce the sweete sound of the siluer voyce, & marres the inchaunting Rethorick which hath so oft beene broken betweene the faire Pearle & Rubies beauty: it spoiles the wealth of arte & the pompe of wit; so that like as we see ouerthrowne nobility, loosing their roabes of honour, not to disclaime the cottage garmẽts; (in such sort, shall euen the Princesse *Melidora*, her selfe in token of the true homage shee oweth to consuming Time) forsake and disclaime from all those eye charming graces, of which with such curiosity shee had boasted. *Thirsis* no sooner heard him name *Melydora* but as if that name had bene an alarũ to awaken his too sleepy sence; raysing vp himselfe and looking *Opicus* in the face, hee said: I tell thee Shepheard *Melidora* liues not within the reach of *Fortune*, neyther can *Time* (were his power redoubled) make her immortall flower shedde one leafe from her braunches. I tell thee, shee like the top of that fayre *Laurell*, which growing by the Altar of *Apollo*, houlds both the frost and fire in contempt & derision. What Swanne shall sing that shall not sound forth her prayses? What Swaine shall Pipe, and not make her name his musicke? nay I tell thee euen *Time* himselfe, when he hath finisht his braueſt conquest, shall bring vnto her the honour of his tryumph, and hauing no more to ouercome, shall hang vp vnto her beauty, his murthering, Sythe for a monument.

Opicus seeing him thus violently carryed away with vnreasonable reasoning, and finding that contention did but rather agrauate then mittigate, loathe that melancholly should incurre the tytle of Furye, leauing all other exhortations, said onely vnto him, that sith his

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conſtancie was an impediment to all perſwaſions; there was in his conceite no better meanes then by milde intreatye to mooue ſome Mercye; Alas, alas (ſaid *Thirſis*) intreaty is as booteles as my Loue is hopeles: dooſt thou no: knowe the famous Shepheard *Mopſus*, he that vnderſtands the language of the Birdes, the Vertue of ſtones, the nature of heabes, and what euer elſe can be couered vnder the habit of ſecret wiſdome? Hee, O he I tell thee, hath long ſince calculated my natiuitye, & hath found the oppoſition of my Stars to boade me nothing but miſery, aſſuring me my loue ſhall euer be dieſted and diſpiſed; this hath hee propheeied, and this muſt be beleeued; to theſe wordes *Opicus* thus replyed.

I tel thee *Thirſis*, *Mopſus* can commaund both wordes and fortunes, but they be all as falſe and vaine, as himſelf is fooliſh and vnlearned: therefore I charge thee, let not thy diligent eare giue credite to his idle Oraeles, but oppoſing his maxims, thou ſhalt make thy ſelfe able to diſcerne his falſehoods: for proofe whereof, note but attentiuely this tale I ſhall deliuer.

At ſuch time as the healthful toyle of my Shepheards life, and the homely groſeneſſe of my countrye cheare, beganne to growe yrkſome and vnpleaſant to my fantaſticall taſte; there ſprang in me an earneſt deſire to beholde the Citie gouernment, & that tryumphant magnificence, which in Princes Courts makes men Angels, and Kinges Gods; But *Mopſus* ſeeking to with-draw my mind from thoſe too high knowledges, thus went about to perſwade me,

Beware, beware (ſaid he) vaine man, to what end thou dyrectes thy iourney: I tell thee thou gooſt vnto a place where craft ſpringes, colours flouriſh, and deuiles

swarme; where faces can alter their fauours, tongues change their speech, and Slymie bodyes sticke to the painted fortunes of rayse Potentates; where guiltye men are made golden Idolls, Flattery sooth'd by detraction, oathes by periuries, and treason by friendshippe, Offices made subiect to crymes, and counsails to bloud, ignorance attended by Pride, pride by Ryot, and Ryot by cuill and domestique Garboyles. O flye from this place from whence Enuie hath expeld friendship, and Ambition banisht the zeale of auntient Pyetie, where slaues liue with toyle, Princes with feare, and euen Kinges themselues with vncertaine saftie: make not thy selfe a companion with greatnesse, it is worse then *Atlanta's* Castle or *Trophonius* dungeō, for euen in those Places dwel those alluring Sisters, whose inchaunting melody makes strāgers cleaue to the Rockes: there shalt thou apprehend mountaines of golde, yet shalt thou but finde onely Glasse; Each Turret in a Princes Pallace hath a seuerall tongue: each Walle a sound, and each vaulted roose a distinct pronuntiation; neyther doe they eccho like sound deuided wordes, but repeate whole sentences, yea many times more then was eyther spoake or imagined; Beautie there like the Cockatrice perswades, ensnares, and then confoundeth; al things are beyond capacities, poyson in Golden Vessels, treason in cloie hearts, and deepe vndermynings in simple seeming vnderstandinges. Therefore if thou wilt bee gouernd by my knowledge, eyther locke vp thy lippes and thine eyes, when thou shalt beholde greatnes; or stay ng thy progresse, liue securelye in thy countrye habita ion: Loe *Thirsis* this was his counsayle, and these were the Aphorisines of his diuinitie: And did thou

goe (ſaide *Thirſis*) and didſt thou diſpiſe ſo graue an admonition? did I goe (replyed *Opicus*) yes, I went and I ſhall neuer repent the worthyneſſe of ſo notable a iourney; for there I found craft had no eares, falſe faces had no loue, and flatterers were but the fooles at Princes Tables. I ſaw Ambition headleſſe, Ryot comfortleſſe, and diſcention houſeleſſe, I ſaw Treaſon tormented by loyaltie, Policie confounded by Religion, and periurye branded in the face with an yron of infamie: In briefe, I ſaw no euill but euill auoydable: yet there I ſaw many faire Swās, whoſe ſonges me thought did equalize or out-goe eyther *Iſſer*, *Poe*, or *Douen*: there I ſaw many fayre Nimphes, whoſe vnpolliſht perfections made nature admyrable. There I ſaw manye celeſtiall Syrens, many lights, many Goddeſſes, and many Graces, euen there I heard thoſe excellent ſoundes, whoſe bewitching, and heart-pleaſing tunes, made mee ſtand diſtraught with delight and amazement; what ſhall I ſay? I beheld more excellent obiectes then I could immagine, yet not ſo manie as I deſired might liue euer in my proſpect. I ſaw a people more ciuill then the *Athenians*, a Senate more wiſe then the *Romans*, and a Nobilitie more glorious then all the auncient worthyes; but aboue all, I ſaw a God or man, or at leaſt a moſte Godly man, who with the ſhaking of his hand, ruling the ſway of manye kingdomes; by his gate, his geſture and his almighty Majeſty, ſeemed better then *Numa*, ſtouter then *Caſar*, greater then *Alexander*; his ſword I ſaw was the guard of vertue, his Scepter the glory of peace, & his Crowne the Garland of proſperitie: there was no Arte but in his knowledge, no knowledge but in his conceite,

and

and no conceit but in his song onely; his presence mee thought was brighter then day, & his countenance gaue a glorie to the Firmament, O how my heart did dance in my bosome when I beheld his presence! my soule drunke Nectar from his eyes, and euen then me thought those heauenly numbers began to flowe in my braine, which making mee dispise the rusticke melodie of the homely Pastors, hath made me ambitious, to sing of him and of his glorious actions: nay, thou thy selfe knowest *Thirsis*, that all-be I am returned backe vnto my Cottage, yet haue I beene desirous to raise mine Oaten harmonie higher then a Shepheards thought, or a Countrey construction; and Trumpet-like to sound vnto all the corners of the worlde, the great power of his eternall name; but as thou seest ouer straining my selfe (as being altogether vnable to match the surmounting height of his greatnesse) I crackt my voyce, and haue euer since become hoarse and vnrespected: this I deliuer vnto thee, that thou maiest vnderstand as *Mopsus* hath beene deceyued in his former speculations, so he may erre in his present iudgements, and *Melidoras* fauour may falsifie his Prophetie. Woe is mee (sayde *Thirsis*) where shall I begin to enter this Laborinth, or howe shall I vnzie the Gordion that can finde no ende to loose it? By gifts (said *Opycus*) for they be auayling Orators. Alas (said *Thirsis*) there is no gift worthy her acceptance: Gold is but Oare, being compared with her haire; Diamonds are but Glasse, when her eyes doe sparkle vpon them; can any Pearle bee so orient as her teeth, or any Rubie so cherrie as her lippe? her necke is whiter then my flocke, and softer then the downe of Turtles. Honie is made sweete by her wordes; Roses

borowe

borrowe beautie from her cheeks, and the goodlieſt Apples are made round by the two round balles that are couchtin her boſome: to conclude, an eternall ſpring doth flouriſh in her lookes, caſting abroade into the worlde all the excellent perfumes of naturall ſweeteneſſe, inſomuch that this other day I ſawe a pretie Bee, which toyling from bloome to bloome to gather her honie burthen, light on *Melidoras* dimpled chinne, with as great pride as if it had beene a flower, worthie onely the *Heſperian* Orchard, and beeing there, ſuckt for honie with as buſie labour, as if ſhe had beene in the *Hybean* Gardens, or the *Peſtalian* Roſaries: whileſt enuie made me cri: out of my fortune, that I was not ſo happy as that little creature. And as he was thus ſpeaking, hee fell into a moſt extreame and bitter weeping; which to aſſwage, the Nymph *Ethera* earneſtly beſought him, that ſince he could not abate woe, yet to indure woe with more patience; and for the loue of heauen, and for her loue, whom as heauen (ſaid ſhe) thou regardeſt, bee this once directed by my counſaile, which if it doe not profite, yet cannot bring thee to no greater perill then that wherein thou alreadie ſtandeſt: and this it is.

There is belonging vnto *Pans* Chappell, a Prieſt that is holie, wiſe, diſcreete, and ſober; one that hath skill in charmes, and knowledge in ſpels, that hath the ſpirit of truth, and the gift of prophecie; his abode thou knoweſt, and of his integritie thou haſt heard; with him I will perſwade ſo effectually, that to morrow comming abroade, he ſhall vouchſafe thee conference, where I doubt not, but eyther his counſaile ſhall perſwade, or his cunning attaine the vttermoſt ende of thy beſt hopes; to what

purpose (sayde *Thirsis*) shall I trouble his knowledge, when my selfe knowes her chaste heart is fixt vpon a more worthie obiect? She loues *Diatassan*, alas shee loues him; I knowe it, (answered *Ethera*) and I know *Diatassan* loues *Apheleta*, but let that rest in their bosomes, bee thou onely gouerned by my rule, and my life shall sooner ende then I will ende to labour thy contentment. *Thirsis* vnwilling to offende her, whose all carefulnesse was wholy to please him, with submissiue obedience, yeelded to all her intreaties, vowing to commit no outrage vppon himselfe, till he had tried the successe of her counsailes, and so rising from the ground, and being conducted by *Opycus*, he returned home to his Cabbin.

Ethera as soone as she was departed from *Thirsis*, all-be she had a busie mind in a weatie body, yet would she not leaue searching vp and downe, from hill to dale, from groaue to woode, by the Arbors, by the Springs, by the Medowes, by the Riuers, and al to find out the amorous Shepheard *Diatassan*. At last in an obscure thicket shee spyde where he lay, and with him another Pastor named *Cosmo*, of whom as soone as her eye had taken a perfite knowledge, with silent pace and soft steps, such as could not betray her walking, shee approched so neare them, that shadowing her selfe vnder the couert of a slender Poplar, shee might well heare and vnderstand all their speeches, which at first proceeding from *Diatassan*, were full of passionate complaints, and doubtfull longings, till *Cosmos* (who as cares comforter) lay tocontroll his sorrowe, desired him to shew what suddaine storme it was that had so soone darkened the bright day of his happinesse? to which *Diatassan* with a heauie sigh answered,

that

that he had of late beheldе in theſe woods a Nymph ſo like vnto a dead Ladie, whom in his firſt youth he had infinitely adored, that euen as her liuing Image was liuely in her perfections, ſo euerie wound in him, which was cloſed by her death, opens as oft as he beholdes her, and bleedes as freſhly as if it had beene ſhee, and no other by whome his heart had beene wounded. Of what name is ſhee (ſayde *Coſmo*) or when came ſhe into theſe walkes that you haue but ſeene her ſo lately? Hath ſhee not vſed our Temples? hath ſhee not frequented our May-ſports? or hath ſhe not beene preſent at any of our Paſtorals? Her name (replyed *Diataſſan*) is *Aſtheleia*, but for her arriuall in theſe woods, or frequent with our delights, it hath beene but lately (my *Coſmo*) yet ſoone inough I feare, and too ſoone to worke my ouerthrow: Haue you had any conference with her ſaid *Coſmo*? once (anſwered *Diataſſan*) and then I found in her a Maieſticall loue, full of chaſte ſeueritie, yet couered with the humble vaile of life-pleaſing *Pittie*; I found in her a iealous honour, yet a bountifull curteſie; ſhee diſplayed no ſignes of *Hope*, yet beheld I nothing to make me diſpaire: to be briefe, in the midſt of this indifferencie, ſhe gaue mee this doubtfull fauour, behold it my *Coſmo*; And with that he ſhewed him the faire Ring, which ſhee had formerly beſtowed vppon him, on whoſe curious deuiſe and workmanſhip, as they were with labouring mindes inwardlye beholding: ſee, ſee (ſayde *Diataſſan*) this *Motto*, this *Manens moueor*, my *Coſmo*, is it that onely torments and diſtempereth mee? one while my thoughts giues my heart intelligence that it ſhoulde approue her to bee conſtant, ſteddie and immoueable, howſoeuer ſhee

turne or winde about my wretched fortune; euen like the glorious frame of heauen, which with his countercourse euer returneth to the first poynte of his beginning: This thought is no sooner finished in my conceite, but a new springes vp, and then Imagination tels me, that shee onely to my sight standes fixte and vnmooued, yet like the celestiall bodyes moues with such secrecie, that wee shall sooner feele the change then beholde the motion: these and a thousand such cogitations, are the continuall hammers, which beating vpon the Anuile of my heart, disquiet my sences, and take all rest from my slumbers: which to reconcile or remooue, I would become a slaue, either to *Time* or *Opinion*.

Esbera at these wordes, perceiuing the Qu. was giuen her, which must let loose her language, starting from the place of her aboade, presented herselfe euen to the sight and presence of the two Shepheards; and first vnder the cloake of carefull amitie, and obsequious loue, couering the vnexpectance of her aproach, and the danger of her suddaine intrusion; shee briefely tolde *Diatassan* with some flattering circumstances, how much shee honoured his vertue, respected his quiet, and desired the satisfaction of his best longings; therefore (saide shee) fayre Shepheard, although thou didst not see mee, yet haue I heard thy sorrowes, and long since suspected thy heauie plight; which to helpe, I am now content thou shalt esteeme mee rude: wherefore if it please thee to accept of my counsaile, I will direct thee into so fayre a path, as shall without amazement or danger, bring thee to the full end of thy wishes.

Diatassan

Diataſſan, who had hee had his counſailes in his boſome, might haue prooued more daintie in d ſcharging them; now ſeeing they were reuealed, like an infant curtezan, who trembling at the firſt touch of ſinne, growes by vſe impudent in ſinne; being altogether inſuſpitious, kiſsing *Ethera's* fayre hand, tolde her, that if eyther her knowledge could diſcharge his doubtfulneſſe, or her counſaile dyrect him through the blinde pathes of his intrycate Loue, that ſhee ſhould not onelye make him an euer admyrer of her vertues; but a man proud to bee intytuled her Seruant. *Ethera* as proud of this inſinuation, as counning to preſerue her aduantage, thus ſaide to *Diataſſan*; There is (quoth ſhe) fayre Shepheard, not farre from this place, and hard adioyning to the foote of the Mountaine *Oſſa*, an obſcure and auntient groaue of Pynes, of Cedars, and of wilde Oliues, where no Shepheard haunts, no Beaſt feedes, nor anye Satyre dare prophane. Within this darke groaue there is a little Grot, which making his paſſage through the hollowneſſe of the earth, is all ouer-growne with bryre, with thorne, with twitch, & with many intãgling buſhes. It is a place vnſearcht, vnknowne, and vndeſired, as being rough, thicke, and like hell, darke and voyde of all comfort. Within this place there liues a holye Hermitte, who beeing pretious and deare vnto our greate God *Pan*, hauing ſundrie wayes to iſſue from this his diſolate Manſion, ſometimes to drinke the comfortable ayre: ſometimes to giue releſe to diſtreſſed Shepheards, and ſometymes for other more holye recreations I haue oft obſerued his howers; wherefore to morrowe about the euening, at what time it ſhall bee my happe to meete with him, I will with

such sweete perswasion intyce his olde yeares, that he shall not deny me to stay, & for some little space to conferre with thee, touching the doubtfulnesse of thine affection, thegift of prophecie, the knowledge of things past, and to come: and what else vnreuealed arte hath bene to mankinde hid, and obscured, the bountifull heauens to him onely haue disclosed; therefore looke thou discharge thy counsailes into his eares, & with care performe all his instructions, so shalt thou rayse honour vnto him, ease vnto thy selfe, and to me thy well wisher a iust satisfaction.

Diatassan after a little amazement at her discourse, calling vp his better wittes, and finding a stronge hope in this secret knowledge (being as it were tickled with a desire to beholde the issue, for loue hath no meane or patience in his desires) demaunded if hee should not presently goe with her? But she answered No, for first she would conferre with the Hermit herselfe, and then she aduis'd him at the closing of the euening, to come vnto the foote of the mountaine *Ossa*, and if there hee found an Hermit, according to such description as she gaue him, then to proceede and trye the euent of his vnderstanding: *Diatassan* as much satisfied in himselfe, by this hope, as *Ethera* was hopefull to satisfie others by this stratagem, after many obseruant kisses offered vpon the fayre Altar of her hand, and double so many religious vowes, and protestations of seuerall seruices, for this her no lesse kynde then honourable friendship, taking his leaue of the politicke Nimphe, did together with the honest Shepheard *Cosmo*, for that time depart home towards their owne Cabinets.

But *Ethera* not hauing as yet, brought foorth that

prodegi-

prodegie which ſhee intended ſhould amaze all the worlde, and *Tempe*: but being as it were in a painfull labour of much greater ſubtilties; as ſoone as the Shepheard was gone from her preſence, ſhee went and collected together ſundrie ſimples of ſtrange workinges, as Mandragge, Rue, Poppy, womans milke, Roſeleaues, pouder of Nutmegges, and ſuch like; Of theſe ſhee compoſed a ſtrong liquid potion, which being infuſed into a Chriſtall Vyoll, and ſo carryed it about with her in her boſome. This doone, ſhe preſently went to the lodge, where the Princeſſe *Melidora* lay, but miſſing her there, and being ſo imboldned with rage of her owne deſires, that ſhee feard not to bee accounted barbarous, ſhee went ſtraight vnto that priuate Arbor, to which none might haue acceſſe ſaue onely the princeſſe; and as *Boldneſſe* was readye to make her ſet her foote within the ſame, *Wonder* held her backe, for ſhee might heare a more then Angells voice, which conſorting the ſound of a moſte delicate toucht Lute, deliuered vnto her eares this Sonnet.

Care keepe that abſent preſence in my breſt,
Whoſe preſent abſence doth torment my heart,
And I will make thee Miſtris of my reſt.
Not my ſoules good, but my ſoules better part.
That abſent image houldes my preſent life,
My life in it; it in my life doth liue,
Part them, and all my ſenſes are at ſtrife,
They doe my pleaſures make, and comforts giue.
Then gentle Care *let no Carracter graue,*
Other then his remembrance in my minde:

And

And eyes if you send to my hearts close caue,
Other then him, be you for euer blind.
He hath my heart within his Image wrought,
I haue his Image grauen in my thought.

The verie rarenesse of the sound deliuered with such incomparable sweetnesse, easily assured her whom the singer was, and that it could not be any other then the Princesse *Melidora*, wherefore retiring her selfe from her first intended entrance, and being of a pregnant wit, apt to compasse choyse Numbers without meditation, leaning herselfe against the backe-side of the Arbor, so that the Princesse might not loose one syllable of her vtterance, she sung this song *Extempore*, as it had beene in the person of *Diatassos*.

Alas why should I hope for ease,
Of this my soules immortall strife,
Twere better to abridge my dayes,
Then vrge her more to saue my life.
O Apheleia *thy loues power,*
Is my liues date, and my deaths hower.

How crosse hath heauen beene to my fate,
Since first I got the vse of breath?
She that me loues, alas I hate,
She that I loue desires my death,
O Apheleia *thy loues power,*
Is my liues date, and my deaths hower.

Cruell Loue *why didst thou strike me,*
With a Dart so full of woe?

If

If both my euer doe diſlike thee,
Nor my life thou wilt let goe,
O Apheleia thy loues power
Is my liues date, and my deaths hower.

What bootes it thee to ſee me beare
This raging fire in which I burne,
But that to men it may appeare,
What fortunes thou canſt ouerturne.
O Apheleia thy loues power,
Is my liues date, and my deaths hower.

Yet if thou ru'ſt on any ſmart,
Rue on my woe that wofull is,
But thou haſt an obdurate hart,
And ſtonie minds wants Pitties bliſſe.
O Apheleia thy loues power,
Is my liues date, and my deaths hower.

Alas why ſhouldſt thy chaſt faire ſight,
His glorie gaine by killing me,
And ſo againſt all law and right,
Win an abuſiue victorie?
O Apheleia thy loues power,
Is my liues date, and my deaths hower.

Why didſt thou giue life to my flame,
If hope to kill were thy regard,
What worſer chance can crowne thy name,
Then ſtill to loue and lacke reward?
O Apheleia thy loues power,
Is my liues date, and my deathes hower.

And shall the showers of teares I show,
Gaine no remorse for all my smart?
Alas sterne Loue *doth answere No:*
For why? he dare not touch her hart.
O Apheleia *thy loues power,*
Is my liues date, and my deaths hower.

It is in vaine, I am asham'd
That thus I seeke cure for my griefe,
For hearts that are inhumane fram'd,
Loue woe so well they hate reliefe.
O Apheleia *thy loues power,*
Is Diataſſans *dying howers.*

The Princeſſe attentiuely hearing this ſong, but not ſeeing the ſinger, after her eares had drunke the ſounde of her Shepheards name, coupled with another (as ſhe thought) much vnworthie of ſo hie preheminence, as if all ſuch adoration, had beene moſt damnable blaſphemies, all-bee the ſound did not chalenge anie thing from his voyce; yet reſtleſſe *Iealouſie* ſtrake ſuch ſtrange fire into her boſome, that not able to containe her ſelfe, ſhe came foorth of the Arbour with a more then vſuall haſte, *Anger* making the Lillies of her face couer all the Roſes, But when ſhee ſawe the deceyte, and that it was but onelie the Nymph *Ethera*; newe Gilliflowers ſpringing about the Throne of Roſes, ſmiling vpon the Nymph, ſhe ſaid:

I am glad (my *Ethera*) that thy pleaſant free thoughts, ſtirring vp thy ſiluer voice, will giue vs the comfort of thy ſong: beleeue mee, I feard, thy laſt affright would haue robbed both from thee and me, all

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taſte of ſolitarie pleaſure; But I pray thee fayre Nymph, tell me what ſong was this, which thou didſt euen now ſo paſsionately vtter, was it of thine owne, or of others compoſing? The Nymph *Ethera* with a downe-caſt looke, and an humble reuerence, teaching her cheekes ſo artificiall a bluſh, as might verie well deceiue Nature, bowing herſelfe before the Princeſſe, and firſt craning pardon for her bolde preſumption, in that ſhee had come ſo neare the place of her priuate retiring; aſſuring her with many prettie proteſtations, that ſhe was vtterly ignorant of her there aboade: in the ende ſhee tolde the Princeſſe that for the ſong which ſhee had ſung, it was none of her owne inuention, but made by the famous Shepheard *Diataſſan*, in honour of the loue hee bare to the faire Nymph *Apheleia*, which ſhe of late hearing, had now newly bequeathed to memorie.

O God! had the Nymph *Ethera* out of an implacable anger taken a vow vtterly to haue confounded the Princeſſe, or had the Princeſſe beene the vtter-confuſion of all the generation from whence the Nymph was deſcended: had the Princeſſe beene her riuall in affection; the barre to her deſires; or had the Princeſſe ſaid, (what no woman can endure to haue ſaide) that ſhee had not beene faire, ſhee coulde neither haue founde a more readie poyſon, nor a more ſharpe reuenge, then the vtterance of theſe wordes, which ſhee deliuered: they were Daggers in the Princeſſe heart, they were woundes in her ſoule, and liuing deathes of dying liues anguiſh: what paſsion was there, with which ſhee did not communicate? what feare, what diſtruſt, what iealouſie, what madneſſe,

what amazement, and what elſe that may take vpon it the name of abſolute euill, But in the ende *Reaſon* that could neuer indure that ſuch euils as theſe ſhould become maiſters of his faireſt habitation, but like *Carniuall maſquers* to haue onely a moments entertainment, and no further, ſummoning his beſt accomplices as *Vertue, Conſtancie, Conſideration*, and ſuch like, beganne to warre againſt the former, with theſe argumentes.

Firſt ſhe called to minde the vertue of his former life, his innocent thoughts, his plaine dealing tongue, and his vndiſembling actions; the ſecuritie of his gouernment, giuing no libertie to inconſtancie, and his honourable imitations, being euen aſſurances of the beſt goodneſſe, inſomuch that *Paſſion* being accompanied with his onely companion *eaſie beliefe*, and both they attended on by *Anger* their ſeruant, caſting a threatning cloude ouer the cheerefull Firmament of her diuine lookes, ſhee thus ſpake to the Nymph *Ethera*.

Well I perceiue that the vſe of ſinne brings the Euill both to a delight and eaſineſſe in ſinne, nothing in them augmenting their ripeneſſe more, then the warmth of their owne wickedneſſe: of this haſt thine immodeſtie giuen mee a double experience: thy firſt vnchaſt perſwaſions, being now ſeconded with a moſt ſhamefull ſlaunder, *lightneſſe* and *impudencie*, ſtriuing how to create *murther*. O *Ethera* thou art double vnkinde, vnkind to *vertue*, the ſhadow of whoſe countenance hath brought thee to much honour: but moſt vnkinde to *truth* whom thou ſeekeſt to kill with a falſe witneſſe; be thy folly therfore thy ſcourge, and both my

hate

hate and refusals of thy counsels, profes of that detestation wherein I holde thee: henceforth I charge thee neither to frequent these walkes, nor acknowledge my memorie, but liuing an eternall exile, complaine to the worlde what woes *falshoode* and *shame* haue brought vpon thee. Alas poore *Diatessan*, thy vertue hath begot thee infinite enuie, and thine imaginarie happinesse seekes to inrich thee with most certaine mischiefe, but thy goodnesse hath taken such well grounded roote in mine vnderstanding, that nothing shall draw from thee the blisse of my good opinion: liue but as happie as thou art constant, and euen Angels shall finde want in thine vnbounded prosperitie. And as she spake these words, teares rising in her eyes, as it were to make a question in the worlde which were the more puter Diamonds, she offered to depart. But the Nymph after the customs of disgrast Tragedians, whose first act is entertained with a snakie salutation, falling vpon her knees and staying her by her garments, with all the humilitie that either Art, or Nature could exercise, humblie besought her to stay, and heare what she had to say for her iustification, assuring her by protestations of vnspeakeable earnestnesse, that when she had drawne her words before the throne of her owne consideration, she shou'd find them so full of substantial credulitie, that no *maxim* whatsoeuer, shoulde either bee more true, or more certaine. At this the Princesse with a little amazement began to stay, whilst the Nymph *Ethera* thus spake.

How hard and v[illegible]ossible it is (Madame) for any perswasion to alter or vnground that setled beleef which in our soules we haue planted as a matter immoueable, the infinit errors which at this day reigne in the world

are liuing presidents: the minde creating reasons to defend her opinion; and the conscience being so free a spirite, as will neither indure bondage nor controlment: as of this (Madam) so wee may speake of *Loue*, whose supreamest power hauing dominion ouer our beliefe, makes all thinges impolsible which is not within the compasse of our affection; from whence hath sprung those prodegies of Nature, of which euen the worlde at this houre swels big withall; men madder then *Pigmalion*, not affecting well caued Images, but doating vpon most deformed, loathsome, and infecting Sepulchres; women worse then *Pasiphae*, not lusting after beasts, but monsters; *Mizētius* cruelty being exercised in euerie Cathedrall: so infinite is *Loues* belicfe, and so impolsible to be controlled: which belief sith in your most excellent selfe it hath found a well furnished habitation, my reasons vnable to contend with your wisdome. and the credite of my wordes beeing disgrast in your opinion, it shalbe sand sprinckled in the wind for me to goe about to exchange your conceite by any perswasion, yet inasmuch as my clear soule loatheth a spotted garment, let mee euen by your *vertues* sake, and your *beauties* sake, coniure you to giue my report this approbation: your Maiestie knowes *Eugenio*, the holy Prophet to our great God *Pan*, hee that knowes what was, what is, and what shall be; he that can bind charmes, vnloose doubts, and euen almost alter destiny, to him (dear Madam) let vs priuately repaire, and if what I haue reported, he doe not second with mo[illegible] substantiall proofes, let his truth bee my conuiction, and your hate my punishment. At these wordes, if not *Iealousie*, yet a fancie in all proportion so like *Iealousie*, that it coulde

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be taken for no wrong to giue him his title, beganne to ariſe in the Princeſſe thoughtes ſtirring ſuch a ciuill commotion betwixt *Feare* and her beliefe, that euen with the amazement of their diſtracted perſwaſions, ſhe grew both aſtoniſhed and confounded, ſtill deſirous to know what ſhe moſt deſired not to know, after many arguments to approue his vertue, and double ſo many reaſons to confirme her opinion, in the ende ſhe agreed to come with the Nymph *Ethera* to this place, where by my iudgement and fore-knowing ſcience, the one might haue her doubts reſolued, the other her truth cõfirmed: *Time* in this buſineſſe was held ſo precious, that neither of them would agree to the loſſe of one moment; but as it were forgetting all buſineſſe, which to this buſineſſe was not appertaining, without either greater guarde, or better preparation, they foorthwith, hither directed their iourny, where both the princeſſe, and the Nymph arriued at ſuch time as the Sun declining downe from the toppe of the heauenlye Mountaines, making his cooler beames ſhine vppon theſe walkes with a more ſufferable warmeneſſe, had inuited mee forth to entertaine the ſweeteneſſe of his Euening progreſſe, and being ſet vpon this banke of flowers, with a modeſt gracefulneſſe, ſuch as Maieſtie onely hath power to make admirable, the Princeſſe gaue me a diuine ſalutation, wiſhing me increaſe of howers, peace of thought, and the bliſſe of mine owne wiſhes, to which when I had returned the beſt and hartieſt of my praiers, the Princeſſe told me ſhe had an earneſt ſute vnto me, which would I vouchſafe to graunt, I ſhuld not only tie her in the beſt bond of friendſhip, but make her acknowledge to poſteritie how much ſhe was

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a handmaid to my wisedome, I that euer haue beene a seruant to the seruants of my God, besought her to proceed, assuring her that whatsoeuer was either within the compasse of my prayers, counsailes or knowledge, should with my best endeuours labour her satisfaction: and with that, euen as she was opening her lips to deliuer her questions, the Nymph *Ethera* interrupted her by deliuering to me these speeches. Father (said she) as our desires are earnest, so are our questions tedious, and both will extort from thy grauitie, either a long discourse or an imperfit satisfaction; which to make perfite, that neither thine age may be grieued with our cõference, nor we returne with a halfe parted solution, so please thee take this Viall fill'd with a strong and well composed liquor, whose warme moysture I know will quicken the frost of olde age, & make the spirit of youth reuiue in thy bosom, and drink of it an hearty draught, I know it will comfort your veines, and make the paine of speech lesse yrksome to your weakenesse, and therewithall she drew forth the vial of liquor she had formerly mixed, and gaue it me to drinke, of which I tooke a full draught: the Nymph euer vrging me to drinke againe, till I made her this answere, that it did not befit the life I had vndertaken, either to make proude the flesh, or fill my emptie veines with new heat of glowing youthfulnesse, whose rebellious spirit holdes an eternall mutinie with the diuine soule, but rather by the vse of thinne diet, much watching, and many cares to humble that *Typhon*, my bodie, and make it seruiceable to great *Pan* my soueraigne, and at these words, deliuering her viall into her hand, I humbly desired the Princesse to proceed to her question, who immediatly thus spake.

I haue

I haue heard (ſaide ſhee graue father) that the *Syren* doth not inchaunt, but inſtruct, not bewitch but inrich with wonder the attentiue eare of the Sea-faring or weather-beaten trauailer, who delighted with the honie oratorie of their Prophetique and diuine language, ſtayes his buſie courſe, and with amazed admiration, drinkes the celeſtiall wiſedome of their incomparable knowledge, no leſſe then theirs; nay much more abundant is the report of thy wit, reading, and excellent, experience, for whome our fields and wee are bleſt, and in whom liues the hope and felicity of our liues comfort: O let vs then (I beſeech thee) receiue from thy learned and vnſpeakeable wiſedome, ſome ſerious diſcourſe of ſuch things, as either to our memories are vnknowne, or in the date of our after time, by the hand of *Deſtinie*, ſhall be fulfilled. and beleeue it wee will bind our eares as firmely to thy wiſedome, as the rocke-bound Mariner to the Muſicke of the Mermaide.

I hearing this prettie ſute made from ſo excellent a mouth: tolde her, that all-be the liberall heauens had for their owne glories, and mans ſatisfaction created me a veſſell for their vſe, incloſing in mee ſome knowledge of their more ſecret wiſedome, yet that either my tongue ſhould raſhly breake vp the ſeales of the eternall regiſter of the vncontrolled Fates, or that my eaſie charitie ſhould for mortall ſatisfaction diſcloſe the counſailes of the ſtarrie Parliament, were both an odious blemiſh to mine olde age, and an vtter baniſhment of thoſe graces, which by the grace of heauen had hitherto in me abounded; neither are (quoth I) the hie contemplations of the diuine powers within the reach

of mans knowledge, being a creature rather created to looke into the wretched estate of his owne sinfulnesse, the remembrance whereof shoulde euen bowe our heades to our feete, and make vs with trembling admiration looke vpon those dangers which howerly lie before vs, wherin we may behold in dayly models, how euen the wisest doe fetter and intangle themselues; yet faire Princesse, inasmuch as I know your wisdome is neuer vnaccompanied with *Vertue*, and that *Vertue* now inflamed with a desire of vnreuealed knowledges; to giue some satisfaction both to your wisedome, vertue, and desire, constantly behold this myrror or glasse of diuine prouidence. And with that I drew forth this glasse, which euer I beare in my bosome, in which as the Princesse gazed with a thirstie eye, and an inflamed remembrance, shee might behold the whole compasse of the round worlde, both heauen, earth, sea, and hell; and aboue all as in a Spheare of the most speedie motion, whose whirling swiftnesse tooke from the eye the distinguishment of the matter, whereof it was composed, shee might beholde set in her triumphat Throne, the great and dreadfull Goddesse of Fortune incertaine *Ramnusia*, who beeng set vppon three round *Munddes*, whose motions were three times swifter then the Sunnes Chariot, was at that time shaping all worldlye premotion into the fashion of an almightie Wheele, running continuallye about an Axeltree wrought out of a rocke of impenetrable Diamond about this Wheele shee sawe swarming all sortes of people, euen from the Throne of Maiestie, to the stoole of earth, which is much lower then the Cottage, some hanging by the heades, some

ſome by the handes, and ſome by the feete, ſome by the eyes, ſome by the eares, and ſome by imagination: none hauing ſo certaine holde as coulde giue aſſurance to their abiding, nor anie one ſo incertainlye placed, as ſeemed to apprehende anie feare of ſuddaine falling; yet neuer did leaues in Autumne fall thicker from the parched trees, then theſe vaſſailes vnto Fortune, dropt and ſhewred downe from this infinite engine, onely one aboue all the reſt that ſat vpon the toppe of the Wheele in a Chaire of glaſſe, ſtayed and ſupported by many columbs and pillers of Chriſtall, Iette, and Porpherie, ſhewed that in the greateſt inconſtancie and exchange of alteration, there is euer ſome one figure of conſtant eternitie; this glorious perſon ſeemed to be the onely delight of Fortune, as in whom ſhe had planted her choyſeſt affections, giuen her the controll of her Godhead, and euen the alteration downfall, and vp-riſing of her frownes, fauors and aduancements, this worthie creature the Princeſſe might ſee, with her hand lift vp, Millions to the toppe of Fortunes Wheele, and ſeat them with aſſurance round about her, ſhee might ſee her raiſe *Ganimede* to heauen, and make him *Ioues* taſter, for whoſe ſake euen the whole generation of *Troy* receyued an eternall bleſſing, ſhee might ſee her take *Appollo* from *Admetus* flockes, to make him Lorde of the worlds beautie, and the Roman *Maro* from rubbing *Auguſtus* horſe, to ſing the honours, vertues and conquests, of the moſt celeſtiall generations; what might ſhee not ſee hee doe that was impoſsible to be done by any other creature; ſhe might ſee her fauour worke all things, making vanitie the ſchoole of wiſedome, if ſhe gaue tolleration to

one vaine opinion, and pietie it selfe, more esteemed for her imitations, then for its owne goodnesse; but in the ende, what with the multitudes of her owne aduauncing, and the slippetinesse of the throne wherein *Incertaintie* had plast her, the Princesse might beholde that great minion vnto *Fat*, and *Fauour* fal like a starre from the heauens, vnto the foote of the lowest destinie, the whilest her owne creatures, like ayme-criers behelde her mischannce with nothing but lippe-pitie.

These and many such like visions the Princesse behelde in my prospectiue, which drawing her minde to reckon with many wonders, and intangling it in a many-wayed Laborinth, she in the ende besought mee to explaine the meaning of these doubtfull and obscure inigmas: But scarce were her intreaties past from her lippes, when a heauie and dead slumber ceazing vpon all my senses, lockt vp both my vttetance & knowledges, so that falling into a most sound sleepe, I gaue her assurance, that her doubts at that time were to remaine vnsatisfied; but the Princesse as greedie of vnderstanding as my bodie was of rest, with pretty motions, and the raysing vp of her well tuned voyce, into a higher Key, sought to awake and breake off my sleeping, till the Nymph *Ethera* besought her to remaine satisfyed, in as much as no sound had power to vncharme those slumbers, declaring therewithall howe shee had to this ende mixt that potion of which the olde man had drunke, against whose operation there was neither noyse, nor violence coulde preuaile: which assoone as the Princesse vnderstoode, fearing that her feares would bee too long lyued, and doubting this stratagem, was deuised onely to lend eternitie

to

to her doubts full of diuine impatience, cloathed in the robes of the most lonelyest anger, shee began bitterly to inueigh against the Nymph, renuing all her former opinions touching her falshoode, and fortifying them with this witnesse, that gaue assured testimonie, shee durst not abide the triall of any innocent or vpright *Iustice*: after the Nymph had giuen the Princes leaue euen to tire her anger with her owne passion, shee in the end interrupted her with these words.

See, see, madam (said shee) how in the most excellent things, this furie which we call conceyte, doth tyrannize and confound all those celestiall ornaments which should make them most admyred: thinks your Maiestie I inuented this to keepe mine owne sinne hidden? no, it is to make my glorie like the Sunne, much brighter; I know (Madam) the effects of our Feminine beliefe, and the soueraigntie of *Loue*, both which admit no credite, no not to Angels, if their Ambassages runne in oppositions with our fancies, wherefore (Madam) that this vertuous olde man, shal not like the Troyan Prophetesse, tell truth without credite, nor I without cause beare the burden of calumniations; thus if it please you I haue doubted: the growne and hoode which this reuerent Priest to our great God weareth, you shall put on: his Booke, his beades, his Glasse, and his Staffe, you shal also exercise, and in all appearance to the eye, bearing the whole image of his grauitie, you shall seate your selfe in this place, and as not beeing what you are, but what you seeme to bee, I meane the aged *Eugenio*, you shall this day to all such as shall make hither their repaire for counsaile, vnfolde the hidden misteries of their fortunes: amongst whom, it

the noble Shepheard *Diutaſſan* ſhall appeare, and vnto your owne eares diſcharge all and more then that little, all which I haue deliuered, bee then your ſelfe the indifferent Iudge betwixt your beliefe, my wrong, and his inconſtancie. The Princeſſe apprehending her deuiſe, gaue eaſie conſent to the accompliſhment, and therewithall leading me into a priuate Arbor, where they might more conueniently diſroabe me, they began that intricate worke, which how it was effected, ſeconded, and controlled, who are deſirous to vnderſtande, muſt expect in the next volume.

FINIS.